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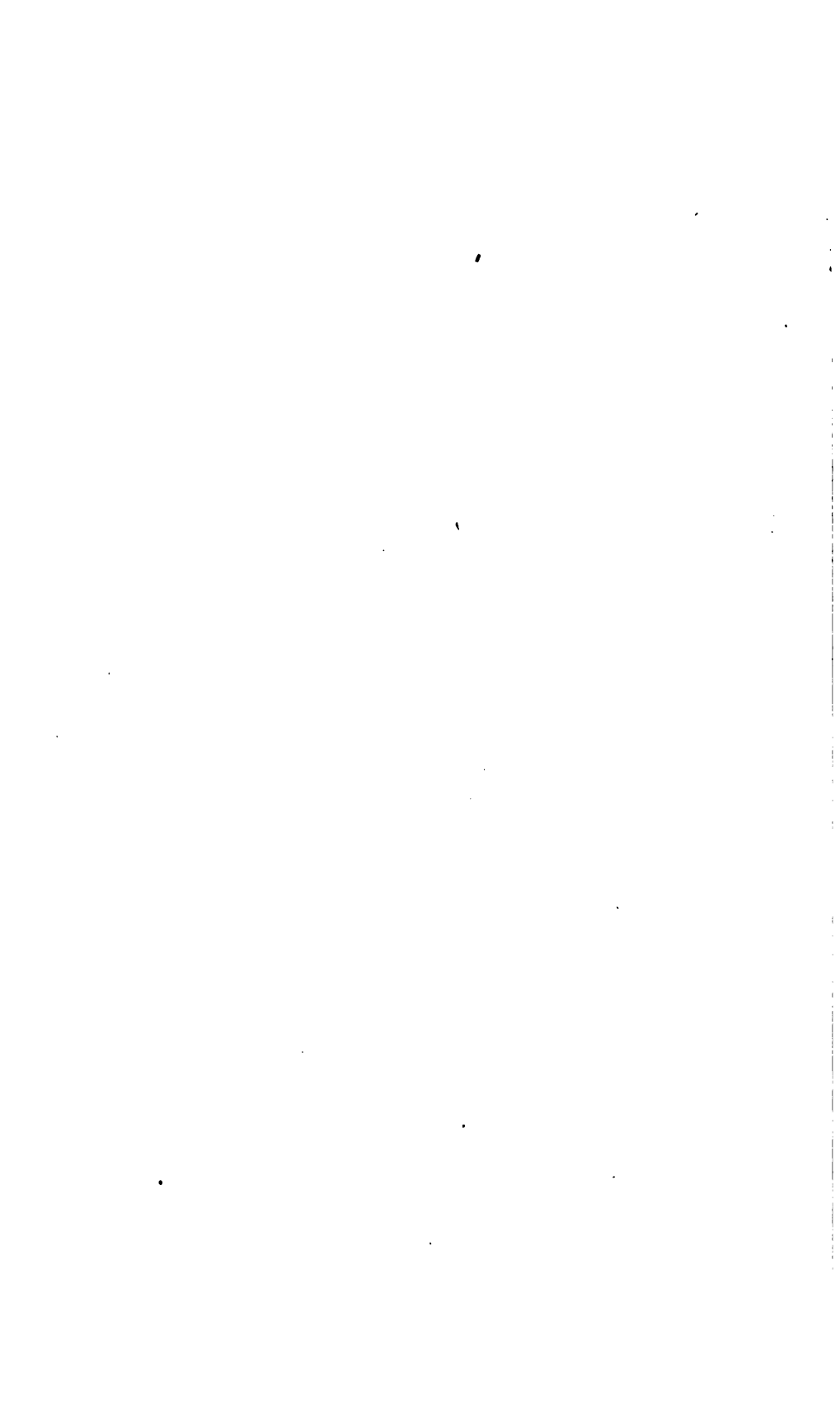
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1898

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HEARINGS

BEFORE

SUBCOMMITTEE

OF

U.S. Congress.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS,

CONSISTING OF

MESSRS. CANNON, NORTHWAY, BARNEY,
SAYERS, AND LIVINGSTON,

IN CHARGE OF

DEFICIENCY APPROPRIATIONS FOR 1893 AND PRIOR YEARS.



WASHINGTON:

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

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HEARINGS

ON THE

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GENERAL DEFICIENCY APPROPRIATION BILL.

HEARINGS CONDUCTED BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE, MESSRS. J. G. CANNON (CHAIRMAN), S. A. NORTHWAY, S. S. BARNEY, J. D. SAYERS, AND L. F. LIVINGSTON, OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, IN CHARGE OF THE GENERAL DEFICIENCY APPROPRIATION BILL FOR 1898 AND PRIOR YEARS, ON THE DAYS FOLLOWING, NAMELY:

MONDAY, March 7, 1898.

OFFICE OF PUBLIC PRINTER.

STATEMENT OF MR. WRIGHT RIVES.

Mr. SAYERS. Please make your statement as briefly as you can.

Mr. RIVES. I have submitted the papers, and if you want to ask any questions—

Mr. SAYERS. Just make your statement such as you desire.

Mr. RIVES. I have filed with Mr. Courts all of the papers in this case; it is all in writing there. I would request to read the following statement, in addition:

Your petitioner states that the stereotype plates, bound and unbound volumes, of the Congressional Globe were purchased by Congress. (Senate Miss. Doc. No. 23, third session Forty-fifth Congress, p. 21.) That the Public Printer, Mr. Defrees, stated in his report to Congress, that he had no place to store them, and some action should be taken, for, if destroyed, it would cost hundreds of thousands of dollars to replace them. Your petitioner requested Mr. Defrees to remove them to his office, but he stated to your petitioner that he had no place to store them and that they would have to remain where they were, and that rent would be paid for their storage. The same statement was made to Public Printer Rounds and received the same reply. I then called on Senator Anthony, chairman of the Senate Committee on Printing, stated all the circumstances, and he stated to your petitioner in reply, that they would have to remain where they were until Congress made some disposition of them, and that Congress would pay rent for their storage. As the rooms where the plates and books were stored were badly wanted by the petitioner, he presented the facts to Public Printer Palmer in 1889. Mr. Palmer, with two of his foremen, Messrs. Brian and Elliot, came out and thoroughly examined the premises where they were stored. He then asked your petitioner what pay he wanted for storage, and your petitioner replied that, if removed at once, he asked \$10 per month. To this the Public Printer agreed (September 28, 1889). The plates and books were all removed by October 10, 1889. Your petitioner then requested payment, and the Public Printer replied he could only pay from July 1, 1889, but would recommend Congress to pay it. So in his report for the year ending June 30, 1889, on pages 7 and 8, he states all the facts and said the claim was just, recommended it should be paid, and sent an estimate to the Secretary of the Treasury for its payment, and the Secretary, in his estimates (House Ex. Doc. No. 174, first session Fifty-first Congress, p. 3), put in the estimate of the Public Printer, viz, \$1,333.33. The Committee on Appropriations did not put it on the deficiency bill for reasons unknown to your petitioner.

At the next Congress the attention of the committee was called to it again, both by the Public Printer in his report and by your petitioner, but the committee did not put it in their bill (deficiency). When the bill was under discussion in the House, Mr. Compton, M. C., of Maryland, offered an amendment that it be paid. This was objected

to and ruled out on a point of order that it was a claim, and it was stated that it had not been recommended or estimated for, and the Chair sustained the point of order. This is clearly in the wrong, as it was twice recommended by the Public Printer and estimated for by the Secretary of the Treasury. Your petitioner then had the facts presented to the Senate Committee on Appropriations, who inserted it as an amendment to the deficiency bill. It passed the Senate, but failed in conference. Your petitioner then brought suit in the Court of Claims. The case was heard, full testimony was taken and printed. The attorney for the United States, Mr. Felix Brannigan, was present when all the testimony was taken, made but few cross-examinations, and presented no witnesses. (See Court of Claims, No. 16876.) In the brief of the defendants (United States) Mr. Brannigan made the argument that the Public Printer had no authority to make a contract and, in addition, pleaded the statute of limitations. The court unanimously overruled his plea that he had no authority to contract, but sustained the plea of statute of limitations, and only awarded the petitioner \$471.66. (See Court of Claims, Nos. 16876-17275.) Mr. Brannigan, in his brief to the court, says the facts are proven and we admit them. * * * If it should be held that the claimants are entitled to compensation for the use and occupation of the premises in the manner proven, it would seem that the rental value claimed is not unreasonable. * * * The petitioners present at most an equitable claim that would ordinarily require such compensation as in justice and according to fair dealings should be paid. * * * It would seem, therefore, that the claimants can not have a remedy in the judicial branch of the Government, and that the legislature alone can satisfy their just demands. It is therefore seen that the Court of Claims remands back the case to the Committee on Appropriations, that justice may be done.

In the report of the Public Printer for 1889, on page 6, he states he rents a building on North Capitol street containing 12,700 square feet at \$3,000 per year, or 23 cents per square foot. On Third street he rents a building containing 1,122 square feet, \$600 per year, or 53 cents per square foot. In his last report (Senate Doc. No. 33, second session Fifty-fifth Congress, p. 5), for rent of floor space in one case he pays 16½ cents per square foot and in the other 32 cents per square foot. Your petitioner only charged the Public Printer 2 cents per square foot, or at the rate of \$120 per year. If your petitioner had charged the same rates as the other buildings, instead of receiving \$1,333.33, he would have received \$13,358.40 in one case and in the other \$30,782.40. Your petitioner would say that while the documents remained on storage on his premises he was subject to great expense for their care, as stated in his testimony on pages 21 and 22. So, as the case stands now, the Government not only occupied the premises free of cost, but your petitioner in addition paid them to occupy it, as it cost him at least \$1,000 for repairs, etc., and the Court of Claims, on account of the plea of the statute of limitations, only awarded \$471.66, being \$861.67 less than the contract as agreed by the Public Printer and estimated for by the Secretary of the Treasury. Your petitioner would state that he has put the case before many lawyers, and all of them said that the Court of Claims erred in sustaining the plea of the statute of limitations.

In addition, your petitioner would say that he stated the facts to one of the most eminent and highest lawyers in the employ of the Government, and he decided the same way. In consideration of these facts, your petitioner requests and demands, as an act of justice, that in the deficiency bill for this Congress you insert an item directing the Public Printer to pay the petitioner the sum of \$861.67, the balance due for rent for storage of documents. Your petitioner would further state that while the buildings were occupied by the Government, that they suffered damages from storms and have not been repaired as yet. Your petitioner would state that when the Public Printers and Senator Anthony at various times assured the petitioner that rent would be paid, and when Public Printer Palmer made a contract to pay rent, your petitioner fully believed that such rent would be paid as soon as demanded.

WRIGHT RIVES.
Executor estate J. C. Rives.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

FURNITURE AND REPAIRS OF FURNITURE.

STATEMENT OF MR. W. H. HILLS, SECRETARY'S OFFICE, TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

Mr. SAYERS. I see that you have an estimate for a deficiency of \$25,000?

Mr. HILLS. Yes, sir.

Mr. SAYERS. You had an appropriation of \$180,000 for the current year and also a deficiency for \$64,000, and now you ask for \$25,000 more. I wish you would explain why it is you need so much more money for this fiscal year than you did for the preceding year?

Mr. HILLS. Well, in regard to last year, we should have asked for a deficiency, but we did not do it. The appropriation for furniture for last year was practically exhausted on the 31st of March. We ran those three months without any money, simply letting the requisitions accumulate, and deferred action until the 1st of July, when we took them up, and as a result there was about \$25,000 worth of furniture and repairs paid from the current appropriation, which properly belongs to last year's appropriation, and, as I said before, we did not ask for a deficiency, notwithstanding the fact we went three months without money. The \$64,000, of which you speak there, is a specific appropriation for furnishing four or five named buildings, and it is not available for use in connection with the other one hundred and sixty odd buildings.

Mr. SAYERS. Do you regard this amount as absolutely necessary?

Mr. HILLS. Absolutely essential, and it is a very low estimate. We have now awaiting in the department requisitions aggregating over \$8,000 for furniture and repairs for furniture at the present time. Now we have nearly four months in which to run, and we need every dollar of the \$25,000. We have furnished so far this year twelve new buildings out of the current appropriation, the building at South Bend, Ind.; Madison, Ind.; Meridian, Miss.; Youngstown, Ohio; Detroit, Mich., a very large building; Beaver Falls, Pa.; Allegheny, Pa.; Newburgh, N. Y.; Pawtucket, R. I.; New London, Conn.; Lynn, Mass, and before we got the specific amount for Omaha we had to put in \$7,000 out of the current appropriation in order that they might occupy the post-office portion of the building.

Mr. SAYERS. Will you have to use all this sum appropriated for Omaha?

Mr. HILLS. Oh, yes, sir; that is merely an estimate for the upper portion of the building.

Mr. SAYERS. Not for the lower?

Mr. HILLS. No, sir?

Mr. SAYERS. The lower has been supplied out of the current appropriation?

Mr. HILLS. Yes, sir; and the building is now occupied by the post-office branch of the service. That is a very conservative estimate.

Mr. SAYERS. Do you not think you could get along reasonably well with \$10,000?

Mr. HILLS. No, sir. We could get along by putting off everything, and it would embarrass the service; there is no question about it at all. The appropriation for furniture, in fact all appropriations in our office are handled in the most economical manner imaginable. Now, some furniture we put in some buildings is not in harmony with the building. The Appropriations Committee will be quite generous in appropriating for the erection of a handsome building, with mahogany interior fittings, but we do not think of putting in mahogany furniture. You take the building at Charleston, S. C., and Detroit, Mich., handsome buildings, handsome doors, and woodwork finished with mahogany, and we put in there a good quality of white oak furniture. That is the economy we are pursuing, and we do not allow a bit of furniture in excess of the actual requirements. You see a great many of these buildings were erected from forty to sixty years ago. Now, furniture that has been in a public building for twenty-five or thirty years is pretty good furniture. It is not the tearing to pieces of the furniture, but the abuse the furniture receives at the hands of the officials, and of course these buildings have to be refurnished practically every twenty-five years. Now, if you will take the public buildings, including the marine hospitals, we have 290 now occupied, you see this service is growing immensely. Within the last five years we have furnished 75 new buildings, and in 1886, with only 125 public buildings, the appropriation was \$300,000, and if you will go back you will see just how the thing is managed.

Mr. SAYERS. Is there any other item on this bill?

Mr. HILLS. No, sir; there is no other item.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. How much of this expense will go in the new buildings?

Mr. HILLS. There will not any go into the new buildings, except that there may be some small items covering the 12 buildings of which I have spoken.

Buildings furnished or to be furnished during the fiscal year 1898, which were included in the estimates for 1899, or not reported to the superintendent's office by the Supervising Architect.

[New London, Conn., Lynn, Mass., New York City (appraiser's stores), Saginaw, Mich., Racine, Wis., Little Rock, Ark. (extension).]

BUILDINGS FURNISHED SINCE JULY 1, 1897.

1. South Bend, Ind.....	1898
2. Madison, Ind.....	1898
3. Meridian, Miss.....	1898
4. Youngstown, Ohio.....	1898
5. Detroit, Mich. (\$20,000).....	1898

6. Beaver Falls, Pa.....	1898
7. Allegheny, Pa.....	1898
8. Newburg, N. Y.....	1898
9. Pawtucket, R. I.....	1898
10. New London, Conn.....	1899
11. Lynn, Mass.....	1899
12. Omaha, Nebr. (in part), (\$7,000).....	1899

TRANSPORTATION OF SILVER COIN.

STATEMENT OF MR. E. B. DASKAM, CHIEF OF DIVISION OF PUBLIC MONIES.

Mr. SAYERS. Your item is for the transportation of silver coin?

Mr. DASKAM. Yes, sir; \$12,000.

Mr. SAYERS. How much have you now on hand?

Mr. DASKAM. The amount appropriated was \$80,000, and we have spent \$68,108.75, leaving a balance of \$11,891, with five months to pay, and the corresponding five months of last year we spent \$22,621, which would leave us, according to that rate, \$10,700 short, but bills are running a little heavier this year than last, so I ask for the round \$12,000.

Mr. SAYERS. Do you think the full estimate of \$12,000 is required?

Mr. DASKAM. Yes, sir; it is running this year a little heavier than last, and the difference between \$10,738 and \$12,000 is just about what I think will cover it.

Mr. SAYERS. What do you say you had on hand?

Mr. DASKAM. \$11,891 on hand.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. There can be but very little necessity for this outlay between now and July, as the wheat crops and cotton crops have been all disposed of?

Mr. DASKAM. I went by the corresponding months of last year. We have paid bills up to January and we will have February, March, April, May, and June, and in the six months of last year we spent the \$22,621, which would be \$10,738 more than we have on hand, so I made it \$12,000.

Mr. SAYERS. Have you any other item?

EXAMINATION OF SUBTREASURIES.

Mr. DASKAM. I have one other item, examination of subtreasuries.

The CHAIRMAN. How much of the appropriation have you on hand?

Mr. DASKAM. \$1,459.10.

Mr. SAYERS. Will not that be sufficient to run you until the end of the year?

Mr. DASKAM. No; we want that for one office alone, San Francisco, which we expected when we asked for that deficiency would be started, but it has not been yet. I want to ask if you can not add to that to continue available until the fiscal year 1899?

Mr. SAYERS. Why so?

Mr. DASKAM. Because the appointment has not yet been confirmed.

Mr. SAYERS. If the appointment is not confirmed, you will not want this?

Mr. DASKAM. But if we do not have it before June 30 it will be soon after, and the \$3,000 you gave for next year will not be sufficient; so I thought it would be better to continue that available.

Mr. SAYERS. Suppose this nomination is not confirmed by the Senate, how much money will you actually spend during the fiscal year?

Mr. DASKAM. Probably the \$1,459.10 we have.

Mr. SAYERS. That will be sufficient?

Mr. DASKAM. Yes.

Mr. SAYERS. If the nomination be confirmed, however, how much will you need?

Mr. DASKAM. Two thousand five hundred dollars.

Mr. SAYERS. And you want that made available during the next fiscal year?

Mr. DASKAM. So if it is not done this fiscal year it will be undoubtedly at the beginning of the next, and we will want more than the \$3,000 we ask for the next year.

Mr. SAYERS. Your estimate depends entirely upon the confirmation of this officer?

Mr. DASKAM. This extra amount and the term will expire, and there is bound to be a change before the end of the next fiscal year.

Mr. SAYERS. Of course; but this is a deficiency for the present year?

Mr. DASKAM. But if you make it continuing available then I will not have to ask for it again next year after you adjourn; it is bound to be.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Under the circumstances if you leave this entirely out of this before the sundry civil bill passes the Senate you can get the \$2,500.

Mr. DASKAM. I have \$3,000 on that.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Why, then, do you want this?

Mr. DASKAM. This is for something that has not yet transpired, but it is liable to either at the end of this fiscal year or at the beginning of the next, and it will take just about all of next year's appropriation by itself to examine that one office. It is only \$3,000 for the whole, and if I use that, next year I will not have anything for the regular examination.

COLLECTING THE REVENUE FROM CUSTOMS.

STATEMENT OF MR. WILLIAM B. HOWELL, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

Mr. SAYERS. You ask \$1,000,000 deficiency for collecting customs?

Mr. HOWELL. Yes, sir; that is \$190,000 less than we had last year.

Mr. SAYERS. It is how much, you say, less?

Mr. HOWELL. It is \$190,000 less than we had last year. We had a deficiency last year of \$1,150,000, and then an additional deficiency of \$41,000.

Mr. SAYERS. Now, how much of the permanent appropriation had you on hand up to the first of this month?

Mr. HOWELL. We have expended \$4,751,000 out of \$5,550,000, leaving about \$750,000.

Mr. SAYERS. You have just got about \$750,000 left to do you from the first of this month until the end of the fiscal year?

Mr. HOWELL. Yes, sir; and our expenditures are about \$590,000 a month.

Mr. SAYERS. So you feel quite sure that this full amount will be necessary?

Mr. HOWELL. We figure, Governor, our expenditures will be at least \$7,100,000 with this deficiency, and if our miscellaneous receipts do not exceed those of last year our total appropriation will only be \$7,090,000, leaving a difference of about \$10,000; and I propose during these four months to make that up.

Mr. SAYERS. What is the amount of the miscellaneous receipts up to the first of this month?

Mr. HOWELL. Two hundred and seventy-eight thousand dollars—no, I am not correct in that. That is the first and second quarters; we have not got the third quarter.

Mr. SAYERS. At what do you estimate the total miscellaneous receipts for this fiscal year?

Mr. HOWELL. Five hundred and ninety thousand dollars.

Mr. SAYERS. So that all that you will have for your service will be the \$5,500,000 of permanent appropriation—

Mr. HOWELL. Five million five hundred thousand dollars of permanent appropriation, and miscellaneous receipts \$590,000.

Mr. SAYERS. That is for the entire fiscal year?

Mr. HOWELL. Yes. There is one other item in regard—I do not know what heading it comes under, but it relates to American seamen, and Mr. Chance here will explain that.

PAYMENT TO OLIVER SMITH.

STATEMENT OF MR. W. S. CHANCE, CHIEF OF DIVISION OF SPECIAL AGENTS.

Mr. SAYERS. Have you any information to give us besides that contained in the document?

Mr. CHANCE. I am not aware of what is contained in your document; but this is a claim coming to us from Senator Perkins, to whom we wrote an answer that there is no fund available for the payment of this money, and we ask for a deficiency appropriation. I might say there was a deficiency appropriation of \$2,675 for payment to the North American Commercial Companies for some supplies furnished to other members of the crew of this same vessel.

Mr. SAYERS. Is there any question as to the amount or the value of the supplies furnished? What evidence have you upon that point?

Mr. CHANCE. Here is the affidavit of Oliver Smith and the certificate of the United States commissioner of the District of Alaska residing at Kadiak.

Mr. SAYERS. How many were furnished with supplies?

Mr. CHANCE. Two, I think.

Mr. SAYERS. Only two?

Mr. CHANCE. So it seems.

Mr. SAYERS. Can you leave that document with us?

Mr. CHANCE. I should like it returned, if practicable.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Are the supplies there itemized?

Mr. CHANCE. Here is an itemized statement amounting to \$111.08. I may be mistaken as to the number of seamen, but I think it is two men relieved. It has not been made a subject of investigation by us, for several reasons. I think I am mistaken about the number of the crew; I think there are more than two.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. It is pretty heavy for two?

Mr. CHANCE. It would seem so.

Mr. SAYERS. Send us a copy of these papers, including a copy of the accounts; just send us a copy of all these papers.

Mr. CHANCE. I will do so, with pleasure.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Do you consider pipes and all that kind of stuff in here absolute necessities when you come to pay for supplies; is that the custom?

Mr. CHANCE. I can hardly say as to that, because we have had no experience in such matters before, except the case referred to last year, and I was not in the Department.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Here are "half a dozen fruit, \$1.50." I presume that must be canned fruit?

Mr. CHANCE. I presume that was the case. We have no special agents in Alaska, and to have investigated this would have cost more than the bill.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D. C., March 7, 1898.

Hon. J. G. CANNON,

Chairman Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives.

SIR: In compliance with the verbal request of your committee of this day, copies of a communication from Hon. Geo. C. Perkins, United States Senate, dated February 10, 1898, and the accompanying papers relative to the claim of Oliver Smith, of St. Helena, Cal., for the payment of \$111.80 for supplies furnished the destitute crew of the *C. G. White*, wrecked on the Alaska coast April 13, 1895, are herewith transmitted for consideration in connection with the Department's request for a deficiency appropriation to reimburse Mr. Smith.

Respectfully, yours,

W. B. HOWELL,
Assistant Secretary.

UNITED STATES SENATE,
Washington, D. C., February 10, 1898.

Hon. LYMAN J. GAGE,

Secretary Treasury, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR SIR: I inclose herewith the papers in the claim of Oliver Smith, of St. Helena, Cal., for payment of \$111.80 for supplies furnished the destitute crew of the *C. G. White*, wrecked on the Alaska coast April 13, 1895. I would respectfully request that the papers be examined, and, if the claim proves just, that payment be granted through the general deficiency bill to be passed at the present session.

Yours, very truly,

GEO. C. PERKINS,
United States Senator.

PETITION FOR RELIEF.

To the United States Congress:

Your petitioner, Oliver Smith, of St. Helena, Cal., and of the Territory of Alaska, hereby respectfully presents his petition for relief, and sets forth his claim as follows, to wit: That on or about the 18th day of April, 1895, your petitioner, by O. Anderson, his agent, furnished certain goods and merchandise, to wit, food and clothing, etc., to destitute sailors of the crew of the wrecked hunting schooner *C. G. White*, which was wrecked in Alaskan waters on or about the 13th day of April, 1895. That the goods and merchandise so supplied, and the labor performed and transportation furnished in connection therewith, and for the relief of said wrecked sailors, was of the value of \$111.80, as per bill of items hereto annexed. That your petitioner has never received pay for same or any part thereof, said sailors being destitute and without means to pay for same. Your petitioner therefore prays for an act of Congress appropriating money out of the Treasury of the United States to pay his said claim. Proof of said claim is herewith respectfully submitted.

OLIVER SMITH.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, *County of Napa, ss:*

Subscribed and sworn to before me, F. W. Kroeber, a notary public in and for said county, this 1st day of February, A. D. 1898.

[SEAL.]

F. W. KROEBER,
Notary Public in and for said Napa County, State of California.

Merchandise, provisions, etc., furnished shipwrecked crew of C. G. White at Kodiack Station by Oliver Smith, per Otto Anderson.

1895.

April 18. 1½ dozen underwear, \$24.....	\$28.00
1½ dozen socks.....	6.50
7 pairs overalls, \$7.....	7.00
½ dozen pipes, \$3; 6 pounds tobacco, \$4.80.....	7.80
5 pounds hops, \$5; 25 pounds Cabot W., \$3.75.....	8.75
½ dozen fruit, \$1.50; 1 can corned beef, \$3.....	4.50
20 pounds pilot bread, \$2; 1 suit underwear, \$3.50.....	5.50
7 overshirts.....	7.00
1 gallon sirup, 75 cents; 2 caps, \$2.....	2.75
15 pounds sugar, \$1.50; 10 pounds butter, \$4.....	5.50
2 packages matches, 20 cents; 10 pounds bacon, \$1.80.....	2.00
2 pounds tea, \$1; 5 pounds coffee, \$2.....	3.00
2 pair blankets.....	10.00
Expenses for labor in transporting and cooking for boys.....	13.50
Total.....	111.80

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, *District of Alaska, ss:*

On this 15th day of October, A. D. 1897, personally appeared before me, the undersigned, a United States commissioner within and for the district of Alaska, residing at Kodiak, said district, Gus Olson and Andrew Johnson, who, being each severally duly sworn on oath, each on his oath, says: That he was a sailor and seaman on board the hunting schooner *C. G. White* at and prior to the time the said schooner was wrecked; that said schooner was wrecked on or about the 13th day of April, A. D. 1895; that after the wreck of said schooner *C. G. White* the sailors and seamen were destitute of clothing and the necessities of life; that among those who furnished clothing and provisions was Oliver Smith, who, by his agent, Otto Anderson, did, on or about the 18th day of April, A. D. 1895, and that the deponents know of their own personal knowledge that the clothing and provisions mentioned in the hereto attached and annexed bill were furnished to said wrecked sailors by the said Oliver Smith, and from deponents personal knowledge said bill is true and just; and further deponents sayeth not.

GUST. OLSON.

ANDREW JOHNSON.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 15th day of October, A. D. 1897.

PHILLIP GALLAHER,

[SEAL.]

United States Commissioner, Kodiak, Alaska.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF AUDITOR

FOR THE STATE AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS,

Washington, D. C., December 29, 1897.

OLIVER SMITH, Esq.,

(*Care of M. H. Gilson, esq.*),
San Francisco, Cal.

SIR: Your letter of 20th instant to the honorable Secretary of the Treasury has been referred to this office, together with your account for provisions, etc., furnished the shipwrecked crew of the *C. G. White* in Alaska on April 18, 1895. I have to inform you that this Department has no funds out of which this claim can be paid. Prior to the appropriation for "Relief and protection of American seamen, 1897," no appropriation was available for the purpose of defraying the expenses of destitute American seamen in Alaska, this being a portion of our own territory, and the appropriations for relief prior to that time having been held to be applicable only in foreign territory.

The claim of the North American Commercial Company for relief furnished to this same crew (and to which you refer) was paid under a special act of Congress. (See the deficiency act of July 19, 1897.) The inclosure forwarded in your said letter is herewith returned to you for the reasons above stated, with the suggestion that you apply to Congress for the relief asked.

Respectfully, yours,

ERNST G. TIMME, *Auditor.*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

STATEMENT OF MR. J. K. TAYLOR, SUPERVISING ARCHITECT.

Mr. SAYERS. On page 11 you have an item for post-office at Fremont, Nebr., for settlement of outstanding contract liabilities on account of heating apparatus, \$15. Is that above the limit?

Mr. TAYLOR. That is an old bill that has been running a number of years, and consequently we have to ask for a deficiency to pay that.

Mr. SAYERS. This is beyond the authorized limit?

Mr. TAYLOR. Well, yes, it was beyond the authorized limit, but we put other things in and this bill being held out so long it came in after the whole thing was exhausted. We had expended it for other things. If the bill had been put in promptly at the time the building was constructed we could have taken care of it.

Mr. SAYERS. I understand that, and the information I want if this appropriation of \$15 is allowed, will it extend the limit?

Mr. TAYLOR. I will not be sure of it, but I think it would.

Mr. SAYERS. The next item is for the post-office and custom-house at Jacksonville, Fla., where you ask \$962?

Mr. TAYLOR. Yes, sir.

Mr. SAYERS. What was the limit of cost of that building?

Mr. TAYLOR. I do not remember the exact amount. This is really an additional appropriation to that extent.

Mr. SAYERS. This is in excess of the limit?

Mr. TAYLOR. I do not think so.

Mr. SAYERS. You do not? Will you please let us know about that.

Mr. TAYLOR. All right; I will ask about that.

Mr. SAYERS. You will please send to the chairman of this committee a statement showing the limit fixed by law for each one of these public buildings, how much has been expended up to date, so that we may know.

Mr. TAYLOR. Yes, sir.

Mr. SAYERS. For improving Ellis Island, New York Harbor, for immigration purposes, \$235.

Mr. TAYLOR. We started at one time to lay a cable, at the time the old buildings were built there, for telegraph and telephone service to the island. After the contract was let, when everything was in shape to lay that cable and a part of it was laid, the city authorities or the authorities in charge of the harbor, I do not know which, raised an objection to it and the thing was dropped. This expense is for taking up that cable and storing it. We had to remove it.

Mr. SAYERS. How old an account is this?

Mr. TAYLOR. Oh, it is away—when the buildings were built. I think those were built in 1890 or 1891.

Mr. SAYERS. You advise us as to the date of this account. We want to know how old it is, and we want to know if it has ever been estimated here before?

Mr. TAYLOR. If it has ever been presented to the Appropriations Committee before?

Mr. SAYERS. Or Congress. For the post-office and court-house at Philadelphia, Pa., \$15.53.

Mr. TAYLOR. That is for the payment of water rent for the year 1897. The building is owned by the Government. We very seldom have anything of that kind to do. I do not know why Mr. Hills, who has that appropriation for maintenance of buildings, does not pay for it, but he says he can not pay for it out of his appropriation.

Mr. SAYERS. Why not?

Mr. TAYLOR. He did not give any reason, but he said he could not, and asked us to pay for it.

Mr. SAYERS. Will you ask Mr. Hills to address us a note in that same connection and explain that account, and also why he can not pay for it out of the general fund?

Mr. TAYLOR. Yes, sir.

Mr. SAYERS. For custom-house and post-office at Providence, R. I., \$75.

Mr. TAYLOR. The reason of that is, this is one of those old bills which were presented. It is a bill of 1889. It came as a charge against the vault, safes, and locks of public buildings of 1889, and by the time the account was presented that appropriation had lapsed and been covered back into the Treasury, and consequently we could not pay it.

Mr. SAYERS. Have you the expenditure of the fund for vaults, safes, and locks?

Mr. TAYLOR. We can take care of it out of that fund this year easily.

Mr. SAYERS. Then why the necessity—

Mr. TAYLOR. Because this is a bill that came against that appropriation for that fiscal year, and without authority we can not take it out of this year, although we have plenty of money.

Mr. SAYERS. So, if we conclude to recommend the payment of this sum, we can just authorize you to pay it out of this year's appropriation?

Mr. TAYLOR. We simply want authority to pay it. We have got sufficient money to pay this bill.

Mr. SAYERS. This liability was contracted when?

Mr. TAYLOR. On account of opening and repairing safe against the annual appropriation for vaults, safes, and locks of public buildings for 1889. It is because a great many of these bills are not presented to our department until long afterwards, on account of some carelessness of the men doing the work.

Mr. SAYERS. Has this account ever been estimated before?

Mr. TAYLOR. I can not tell you.

Mr. SAYERS. Please find that out. For post-office, Scranton, Pa., \$41.35 for the payment of gas bills. Is not this amount chargeable against the appropriation for the construction of that building?

Mr. TAYLOR. They do not seem to think it was. They said they could not charge a gas bill against it. It was not chargeable against our appropriation, and Mr. Hills does not take charge of the building until after it is completed, so it falls between two stools. Neither one nor the other appropriation will have anything to do with it.

Mr. SAYERS. Was this indebtedness contracted as part of the expense of the construction of the building?

Mr. TAYLOR. It was necessitated by the needs of the United States officials who were in connection with the construction of the building, but it was not in the actual fact; I think it was in the nature of lighting during the occupancy by night watchmen for keeping fires and all that sort of thing going.

Mr. SAYERS. For marine hospital, Vineyard Haven, Mass., \$172. What year was this?

Mr. TAYLOR. That I can not tell you.

Mr. SAYERS. I wish you would find out and give us an explanation of it. Are you prepared to explain that account now?

Mr. TAYLOR. Not to my own satisfaction. The reason I am not able to explain this is that I was away Saturday when your note came down.

Mr. SAYERS. Give a full explanation of it. For Government wharf at Sitka, Alaska, \$502.

Mr. TAYLOR. That is in this way. The Government wharf at Sitka, Alaska, was not only in danger, but was actually falling down. The thing was going to pieces, and it was the only chance for the Government to land any of their supplies or anything else their. The wharf was in an absolutely dangerous condition and it was during a time when Congress was not in session, and some gentlemen then there, the business men of Sitka, took the matter up, and by private subscription rebuilt the wharf at a cost of \$502. Now they ask to be reimbursed and we have got no fund out of which they can be reimbursed, and it is only in fairness and justice that they should be reimbursed, because it not only saved the Government wharf there, but saved the Government a good deal of extra money for rebuilding a new wharf, and also saved the Government considerable money in the ability to land materials and supplies right on the wharf itself.

Mr. SAYERS. Have you an itemized statement in your office?

Mr. TAYLOR. Yes, sir.

Mr. SAYERS. Have you examined that statement carefully?

Mr. TAYLOR. Our accounts division have looked it over and say it is perfectly fair.

Mr. SAYERS. And the charge is reasonable?

Mr. TAYLOR. Yes, sir.

Mr. SAYERS. Those repairs were actually made?

Mr. TAYLOR. Were actually made, and we have got reports that they were actually made and were actually necessary. I will send you these expenditures.

Mr. SAYERS. Please do so.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D. C., March 8, 1898.

To the CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS,
House of Representatives.

SIR: In compliance with the request of your committee, I have the honor to submit herewith the following information relative to items pertaining to public buildings under the control of this Department included in the deficiency bill before you for consideration.

IMMIGRANT STATION, ELLIS ISLAND, N. Y.

For payment of outstanding contract liabilities, taking up and relaying cable, \$235.
Claim of John A. Roebling Sons Company, for expenses incident to taking up and storing cable in 1892; expense incurred in establishing telegraphic communication

between New York City and Ellis Island; balance of appropriation carried to surplus fund before allowance of claim.

POST-OFFICE, FREMONT, NEBR.

For settlement of outstanding contract liabilities on account of heating apparatus, \$15.

Claim of Bailey Heating Company, for extra work performed in connection with installing of heating apparatus in the public building at Fremont; amount in excess of limit; appropriation exhausted before allowance of claim.

CUSTOM-HOUSE AND POST-OFFICE, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

For payment of outstanding contract liabilities on account of opening and repairing safe, \$75.

Claim of Patrick Baxter, for labor and materials supplied in opening and repairing safe in 1889; expenditure properly chargeable to appropriation for "Vaults, safes, and locks for public buildings, 1889;" balance of said appropriation carried to surplus fund June 30, 1891, prior to allowance of claim; no appropriation available

POST-OFFICE, ETC., SCRANTON, PA.

For payment of gas bills for the years 1893 and 1894, \$41.25.

Claim of The Scranton Gas and Water Company, for service rendered during the years 1893 and 1894, in connection with the installation of the heating apparatus in the building; amount in excess of limit; appropriation exhausted before allowance of claim.

POST-OFFICE AND COURT-HOUSE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

For payment of water rent for year 1897, for buildings owned by Government and leased to private parties, \$15.53.

Claim of bureau of water, for water rent for year 1897, for buildings on the land recently purchased as an addition to the site for the court-house and post-office; said buildings were under lease, transferred to the Government, to private parties, the law prohibiting a deduction for water rent from the amount paid for rent; no appropriation available.

MARINE HOSPITAL, VINEYARD HAVEN, MASS.

For liquidation of contract liabilities, on account of construction of sewer, \$172.

Claim of T. Franklin Gay, for labor and materials supplied in the construction of sewer, the amount being an addition to the contract; amount in excess of limit; appropriation exhausted before allowance of claim, July 6, 1896.

POST-OFFICE, CUSTOM-HOUSE, ETC., JACKSONVILLE, FLA.

For payment of additional labor and materials furnished in connection with contract for interior finish of building, but not included in said contract, \$962.

Claim of J. T. Schneider & Co., for additional labor and materials supplied, the items thereof being in addition to the original contract for interior finish; amount in excess of limit; appropriation exhausted before consideration and allowance of claim, January 20, 1898.

Respectfully submitted.

L. J. GAGE, *Secretary*.

SATURDAY, *March 12, 1898.*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

STATEMENTS OF MR. WILLIAM H. MICHAEL, CHIEF CLERK, AND
MR. ROBERT S. CHILTON, CHIEF OF CONSULAR BUREAU.

The CHAIRMAN. On page 2 you will find an item for contingent expenses Department of State, where you submit a deficiency for \$500. Last year the amount expended was \$3,500, and you had a deficiency of \$500. That is the ordinary deficiency?

Mr. MICHAEL. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Is it a necessary deficiency?

Mr. MICHAEL. Yes, sir; we expended it last year and will this year.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, is that the ordinary expense which covers—I suppose the most of that is for the care and subsistence of horses for official transportation; that is what that item is for largely—wagon, carriage, harness, etc.?

Mr. MICHAEL. It embraces more than that. We pay out of that for various things besides the stable, but the bulk of the expense is for care of horses and all that.

The CHAIRMAN. Have there been any purchases of new outfits this year?

Mr. MICHAEL. No, sir; there has not been for several years.

The CHAIRMAN. The next item is for stationery, furniture, fixtures, etc., \$1,000 deficiency.

Mr. MICHAEL. Yes, sir; we have been asking for that and getting it every year.

The CHAIRMAN. Since 1895 you have been asking for it and got it. What is the condition of your appropriation now?

Mr. MICHAEL. We have about \$1,300 on hand.

The CHAIRMAN. One thousand three hundred dollars to what time?

Mr. MICHAEL. Well, up to the present time; a few days ago I made inquiry and found we had \$1,300. That is about the same it was last year; perhaps we have a few dollars more at this time.

The CHAIRMAN. Go to the item on page 3 under the head of foreign intercourse.

COMMERCIAL REPORTS.

Mr. MICHAEL. That diplomatic, consular, and commercial report item, we ask for an increase for 1898 of \$1,600. For next year you have appropriated \$5,500.

The CHAIRMAN. What did you have appropriated this year?

Mr. MICHAEL. Four thousand seven hundred and twenty dollars was the amount for 1898.

The CHAIRMAN. That is in the diplomatic bill. We gave a deficiency in that bill the other day for printing for State Department. Does not that cover this?

Mr. MICHAEL. We will do more work next year, and hence it is necessary to have clerks.

The CHAIRMAN. How much is the limitation?

The CLERK OF COMMITTEE. Four thousand seven hundred and twenty dollars.

The CHAIRMAN. How was it in the law?

Mr. MICHAEL. It is \$4,720 for 1898, and it will be \$5,500 next year.

The CHAIRMAN. Three thousand one hundred and twenty dollars was the allowance for the current year and they estimate now \$4,720. Did Mr. Hitt take it in?

Mr. MICHAEL. Yes, sir; \$5,500 for next year.

The CHAIRMAN. That explains it. This deficiency comes from the increased clerical service?

Mr. MICHAEL. Precisely that which will be met by the \$5,500 for the next year.

The CHAIRMAN. You have not made this increase in the clerical force?

Mr. MICHAEL. Well, the work has been accomplished.

The CHAIRMAN. It has been accomplished with your force of clerks?

Mr. MICHAEL. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. So that if this increase was made of \$1,600 now, you would expend the proportionate part of the amount for clerical services for the fiscal year and add to it the \$1,600 for the balance of the fiscal year?

Mr. MICHAEL. Make it precisely as we do for the \$5,500.

The CHAIRMAN. And you would have the whole \$1,600 to expend for the remainder of the fiscal year, four months, or two months, if we did not pass this until near the 1st of July, in addition to the proportionate part of this you expend this year; that is, I mean in proportion to what you have spent up to the time this bill becomes a law?

Mr. MICHAEL. That is correct.

RAMON O. WILLIAMS.

The CHAIRMAN. The item, to enable the Secretary of State to pay Ramon O. Williams, etc., is not an audited claim?

Mr. CHILTON. It was audited and disallowed. Mr. Williams found it was necessary to employ an extra clerk in connection with a great many protests growing out of the reciprocity treaty.

The CHAIRMAN. The Treasury Department turned it down?

Mr. CHILTON. The State Department. He was instructed to receive all these protests and they came in in great numbers—protests against the treaty and illegal exaction of duty—and he found it absolutely necessary, he states, in order to do the work, to employ an extra clerk and pay the money out of his own pocket, and he charged it in his account and the Department would have allowed it if they could; but we had no fund out of which he could be paid, although we recognized its justness.

The CHAIRMAN. How does it stand? Is it Mr. Williams's claim against the Government, or have you a claim against Mr. Williams?

Mr. CHILTON. It is his claim against the Government.

The CHAIRMAN. He has paid for this out of his own pocket and has not been reimbursed?

Mr. CHILTON. No, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. It is not the case of an unsettled account, then?

Mr. CHILTON. No; disallowed.

The CHAIRMAN. Why did you not allow him this clerk?

Mr. CHILTON. We had no fund.

The CHAIRMAN. You mean the fund was exhausted for clerk hire.

Mr. CHILTON. We had a specific amount. A specific amount is appropriated; I think \$1,600.

The CHAIRMAN. The fund was \$1,600?

Mr. CHILTON. I think it is \$1,600, possibly \$2,000 at that time, and he could not exceed that and we could not allow him more.

JOSEPH A. SPRINGER.

The CHAIRMAN. The next item is to pay Joseph A. Springer, vice-consul-general at Havana, etc.

Mr. CHILTON. That is the same thing. Mr. Springer was in charge there a part of the time.

FUR-SEAL-FISHERIES INVESTIGATION.

The CHAIRMAN. The next item is, authorizing the Secretary of State to use up the unexpended balance of the appropriation for the scientific investigation of fur-seal fisheries, etc., to pay for services and expenses during the fiscal year 1899. How much is that unexpended balance?

Mr. MICHAEL. I do not know how much that is, but it is desirable to have this authority.

The CHAIRMAN. You had better drop us a note and tell us how much that is.

Mr. MICHAEL. The explanation is, that it is to pay the persons who are still up in Alaska at work and who will not be able to return here until the end of the fiscal year.

The CHAIRMAN. But it is available for this fiscal year? It is to use the unexpended balance of 1897-98 for 1899; it is for the next year?

Mr. MICHAEL. They will not be here at that time.

The CHAIRMAN. You can call them home?

Mr. MICHAEL. Not very well.

The CHAIRMAN. Suppose you do not get any appropriation to continue this work. That has been the sense of the House so far on Mr. Dingley's motion?

Mr. MICHAEL. They will undoubtedly come home, and when they do come home the object is to pay them.

The CHAIRMAN. To pay them for services in 1898?

Mr. MICHAEL. You can do that after the expiration of 1898?

The CHAIRMAN. Certainly.

Mr. MICHAEL. Our object is to meet that contingency.

The CHAIRMAN. There is no doubt, but is it for services performed in 1897 and 1898?

The CLERK OF THE COMMITTEE. They can pay it for two years.

Mr. MICHAEL. I am mistaken about that; it is for services and expenses during the fiscal year 1899.

The CHAIRMAN. You are here proposing to appropriate the unexpended balance. Now what I want to know is how much there is of that unexpended balance for those two years.

Mr. MICHAEL. I understand.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

PAY OF THE ARMY.

STATEMENT OF GEN. T. H. STANTON, PAYMASTER-GENERAL, UNITED STATES ARMY.

The CHAIRMAN. The first item is for additional pay for length of service to enlisted men, \$281,000. Now, have you any information as to the amount available for this purpose to enable you to reduce that estimate?

General STANTON. Only this. We have here a statement of six months' disbursements, and by going over that carefully we find there will be a deficiency from having disbursed six months of this; that we are running short all the way through—

The CHAIRMAN. The first six months of this disbursement are how much? You seemed to have had \$475,000 there.

Mr. MURRAY (clerk.) We have disbursed \$373,210.78.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that disbursement more for the first half of the year than it will be for the last half?

Mr. MURRAY. It is less the first half because the disbursements have not been made yet.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, you are sure you have got that right—for additional pay for length of service to enlisted men it is \$373,210.78 for the first six months?

General STANTON. That is correct.

The CHAIRMAN. Then your deficiency estimate is not probably large enough.

General STANTON. Two hundred and seventy-one thousand dollars?

The CHAIRMAN. Two hundred and eighty-one thousand dollars.

Mr. MURRAY. That is what we did estimate, and now we make it \$271,421.56.

General STANTON. In place of the \$281,000. I do not think it would be safe to reduce that. The time the estimate was made up we had not then gone as far as we have gone in the disbursement of this money, and of course it was not so full and complete as this. Now, we have a statement for the six months that covers the whole ground very carefully; shows the amount disbursed, the estimated deficiency, and all that it is drawn up here in such a shape you can tell.

The CHAIRMAN. What do you ask now by that estimate?

General STANTON. \$854,765.44.

The CHAIRMAN. That is for the entire year?

General STANTON. That is the estimated deficiency for the present fiscal year, \$854,765.44; that is the sum total of items.

The CHAIRMAN. But you only paid out \$373,000.

General STANTON. That is only one item, and this covers the whole ground.

The CHAIRMAN. But I am speaking of this particular item. What is your estimate of this particular item?

General STANTON. \$271,421.56.

The CHAIRMAN. That disposes of that. The next item is for pay of enlisted men on the retired list, \$56,000. What is your revised estimate on that?

Mr. MURRAY. \$82,409.40.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you not increased your estimate there? Now, your estimate for enlisted men on the retired list was \$50,000. Have you any new light on that?

General STANTON. We think it will require \$82,000.

The CHAIRMAN. What were the disbursements of pay for enlisted men on the retired list. Let us talk about the same thing.

General STANTON. The retired list of enlisted men has increased very rapidly since the first estimate we sent in.

The CHAIRMAN. What was expended for the six months?

General STANTON. Under that head \$241,204.70; that includes pay and rations.

The CHAIRMAN. Now for the next item. For allowance for travel, retained and detained pay, etc.

Mr. MURRAY. There has been disbursed in the six months \$836,831.86.

The CHAIRMAN. That can not be possible; you have something else with it.

Mr. MURRAY. It is half of that.

The CHAIRMAN. The actual disbursement is what we want for six months.

Mr. MURRAY. It is \$418,415.93.

The CHAIRMAN. What is your estimated deficiency?

Mr. MURRAY. \$174,218.18.

The CHAIRMAN. The next item is for repayment of soldiers' deposits, \$50,000. Are not you getting as much as you are paying out?

General STANTON. Just about.

The CHAIRMAN. We can exclude that item?

General STANTON. Yes; I think that can go by.

Mr. MURRAY. The deposits have increased in the last six months.

The CHAIRMAN. The next item is mileage of officers, \$20,000.

General STANTON. I have got an estimate in here for \$35,000; but in consideration of these recent movement orders and the amount of travel involved you will have to increase that.

The CHAIRMAN. How much did you expend the first six months?

Mr. MURRAY. \$52,989.84.

General STANTON. Out of \$80,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Your first estimate was \$20,000 deficiency?

General STANTON. We thought at that time it would be sufficient.

The CHAIRMAN. Then this is anticipatory?

General STANTON. No; the fact is they are holding back the orders now for officers to go to so and so—a number of these graduates last year from the Military Academy—because they did not have the money, and they were held back on account of the shortness of the appropriations.

The CHAIRMAN. You think you will run out of money there?

General STANTON. We have spent already \$53,000.

The CHAIRMAN. But it was up to the 1st of January you spent that.

General STANTON. But since that time we have got the appropriation down to about \$25,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Say that over again. The estimate submitted you say would have been enough under ordinary conditions?

General STANTON. Yes, sir; that is our idea that it would have been sufficient.

The CHAIRMAN. But under existing conditions, if I understand you, the greater amount is needed to pay transfer of officers, etc.?

General STANTON. To join their regiments and stations, and for examination of officers who are ordered before boards for examination for promotion, and with a view to filling the new vacancies of the artillery regiments; and the Carter court-martial has been traveling to and fro over the country. It will take a whole lot of money for it.

The CHAIRMAN. The revised estimate is how much?

General STANTON. Thirty-five thousand dollars.

The CHAIRMAN. That is an increase of \$15,000?

General STANTON. That is right; and we shall need it all, too.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

STATEMENT OF MR. J. T. PETTY, AUDITOR DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The CHAIRMAN. The first item is coroner's office—to pay Dr. L. W. Glazebrook, etc. That is something called for by law?

Mr. PETTY. That is authorized by law, Mr. Chairman. The law authorizes in the absence of the coroner the deputy may act, at a compensation of \$5 a day, and no appropriation is made except the service is rendered.

The CHAIRMAN. And that has been done?

Mr. PETTY. The service has been rendered, and that is to pay for it.

Mr. SAYERS. Down to rent of District offices these amounts are all ascertained?

Mr. PETTY. Yes, sir; each one is an accrued indebtedness.

The CHAIRMAN. For expenses on account of coroner's office for the fiscal years, as follows, etc. Is that a matter called for by law?

Mr. PETTY. Those are expenses that have been actually incurred. I can give the items.

The CHAIRMAN. Have we always paid them?

Mr. PETTY. They are for autopsies, stenographic reports, jurors' fees, livery for coroner's horse, etc., and the appropriations for that year were not sufficient to meet all the expenses of the office. They were all legally incurred.

The CHAIRMAN. Those are ascertained?

Mr. PETTY. Yes, sir. The rent of District office is an old matter with which you are familiar.

The CHAIRMAN. Very well; I do not care to ask anything about that. Now, come to the item of contingent expenses.

Mr. PETTY. That is to pay for supplies furnished the office of sealer of weights and measures. When the present sealer of weights and measures took charge of his office he found that the measures and weights that he had—the equipments—were not complete and they were old and worn out, and he bought \$227.45 worth, fully equipping his office, with the understanding that if you did not sanction the expenditure the goods would be returned; but these weights and measures are absolutely needed for the proper conduct of the office.

The CHAIRMAN. When were these bought?

Mr. PETTY. They were bought last September.

The CHAIRMAN. Was there no appropriation available?

Mr. PETTY. No, sir; we had not a sufficient amount. It would have been charged against our contingent-expense appropriation for the year, but that was not sufficient to carry us through the year with the ordinary expenses, so we refused to buy them.

The CHAIRMAN. This office of sealer of weights and measures, is it really a necessary office?

Mr. PETTY. It is absolutely necessary and a very important one.

The CHAIRMAN. What does he do? I ask for information.

Mr. PETTY. He goes into every business place in Washington once or twice a year and to every store and ice company's office and coal dealer's office and inspects their weights and measures to see that they are in proper working order, and he makes a personal examination in every case.

The CHAIRMAN. Go to the item for general advertising.

Mr. PETTY. They are all incurred in accordance with the law.

The CHAIRMAN. Repairs to concrete pavements.

Mr. PETTY. That is an old matter. In 1890 there was a corporation here known as the Heat and Power Company, who got, I think, a charter from Congress to tear up the streets and lay conduits, intending to furnish the citizens with heat and power from some central power house. Mr. Cranford, our contractor for building concrete paving work, was required to repair cuts made, and this power company was properly chargeable with the expense, but we made a bill against them and they failed and they could not pay and we did not pay Mr. Cranford, and in all these years he has been asking for the money, but the company is insolvent—the Heat and Power Company—and he has done this work at the request of the District of Columbia and ought to be paid. We brought suit in court a year ago, I think less than a year ago, against some gentlemen who were bondsmen for this company, but we have never realized on those suits yet and I do not know we will. If we do, the appropriation will be reimbursed. In the meantime Mr. Cranford ought certainly to be paid. He did the work at our demand and has never been compensated. When we get the money through the courts, if we do, we will put it in the Treasury.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you not think we will be more apt to get it if we do not make this appropriation than if we do?

Mr. PETTY. The contractor, as a matter of justice, ought to have it; he has been waiting seven years.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that the only matter you sue these people for, \$171.02?

Mr. PETTY. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Are the bondsmen any account?

Mr. PETTY. Yes, sir; I think they are good bondsmen.

The CHAIRMAN. I think you will never make them pay if we appropriate this money.

Mr. PETTY. This will not affect the situation. The courts, you know, are very slow, and it may be several years before we get judgment. I think the contractor ought to be paid. You will certainly get the money back in the Treasury if we win this suit, and I do not think it is fair to make him wait, as he has been waiting seven years.

The CHAIRMAN. Go to the item for permit work.

Mr. PETTY. That is to pay certain contractors who did the work under that appropriation, and 10 per cent of that amount was retained.

The CHAIRMAN. That is to pay that?

Mr. PETTY. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. That is absolutely due, then?

Mr. PETTY. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Sprinkling, sweeping, and cleaning?

Mr. PETTY. That is a question for you to consider. This is a proposition to increase our hand-cleaning service. There is a letter from the superintendent here setting forth—

The CHAIRMAN. This is treated in the District bill?

Mr. PETTY. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. And it is treated for this coming year in that bill?

Mr. PETTY. Yes, sir; the Senate gave \$30,000.

The CHAIRMAN. What was the House recommendation this year?

Mr. PETTY. The House did not give anything additional; I think they cut us down a little.

The CHAIRMAN. Cut you below \$140,000?

Mr. PETTY. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. We can not revise the estimate of the House. Lighting streets.

Mr. PETTY. The next is to pay the Washington Gas-Light Company for extra lighting. That is an old story, as Governor Sayers is about to say. The next item is to pay James Robbins for services. That is a legal obligation, as service has been rendered. There were three men and two have been paid, but he by accident was left out in last year's estimate. The other two were appropriated for and paid.

The CHAIRMAN. This is for services—

Mr. PETTY. Actually rendered in making that condemnation. That is something we can not avoid paying.

The CHAIRMAN. For extension of Connecticut avenue.

Mr. PETTY. That is to pay the jurors who served in the condemnation of that land.

The CHAIRMAN. You are not going on with that thing?

Mr. PETTY. This is just an extension of Connecticut avenue, for which you gave \$50,000 last year.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that under the highway act?

Mr. PETTY. Not under the highway act; but it was a special act for the extension of Connecticut avenue. These jurors have served and the clerk of the court has sent the pay-roll to us, and this is an actual indebtedness.

The CHAIRMAN. And the service has really been had?

Mr. PETTY. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Metropolitan police.

Mr. PETTY. I have two letters here from the major of police, which I will leave with you, which explain the necessity for that. His contingent-expense appropriation is practically exhausted to-day. This is considered a very necessary appropriation, and he states it pretty strongly in these letters, which I will leave with Mr. Courts.

The CHAIRMAN. What did you estimate this coming year?

Mr. PETTY. Eighteen thousand dollars was our appropriation for 1898.

The CHAIRMAN. What is recommended by the House for 1899?

Mr. PETTY. The House bill I do not believe increased it, although we asked you to do so. You gave \$18,000, and the Senate has increased it to \$24,000.

The CLERK OF COMMITTEE. And they have added additional men.

The CHAIRMAN. We do not like to revise the District Committee on a thing like this.

Mr. PETTY. This does not ask you to do that; but, Mr. Chairman, we are confronted with this situation, the appropriation is exhausted to-day. We have not got enough to take us to the 30th of June. It will all run out in the next few days.

The CHAIRMAN. That is a matter, legitimately, for the District subcommittee.

Mr. PETTY. Do you think this committee could not deal with that situation?

Mr. CANNON. We do not want to. I know the temper of the subcommittee on the District of Columbia.

Mr. PETTY. I would like to leave Major Moore's letters with you. There are two letters in there. He has had some extra expense this last year; he has paid out \$500 for the capture of the man Hawkins who ran off to Canada, and he paid out \$250 in the Carr case—in capturing that kind of criminals. There is \$750 which they had no idea of expending when that appropriation was made.

The CHAIRMAN. Fire department?

Mr. PETTY. That is a gas bill for \$115 for gas consumed.

The CHAIRMAN. What is the appropriation for that?

Mr. PETTY. It is paid out of contingent expenses of fire department. This is for lighting the station houses, etc.

The CHAIRMAN. Was a bill like this ever here before?

Mr. PETTY. We have had deficiencies in that contingent expense appropriation, but it did not happen to be for gas; but it might have been for some other purposes, and this year the gas was left out. This is an old item.

The CHAIRMAN. Has it ever been here before?

Mr. PETTY. No; I think this is the first time we have asked for it. It was overlooked last year. It is for gas actually furnished.

The CHAIRMAN. Public schools?

Mr. PETTY. The appropriation asked is to pay the janitor of the Miner School building \$800. We have been occupying that building all this year. It is a 10-room building, and at the rate we pay other janitors the janitor of that building would be entitled to \$800. He has served without any compensation so far.

The CHAIRMAN. When did he begin?

Mr. PETTY. He began with the first of the year, and he has been there all the year. We engaged him with the distinct understanding that unless Congress made the appropriation we incurred no obligation. In the next year's appropriations the Senate has allowed that in the salaries.

The CHAIRMAN. But the House did not allow it?

Mr. PETTY. I do not believe that the House allowed it. I believe, when the conference committee meets, perhaps they will be convinced that it is proper and fair; I am sure it must.

Mr. SAYERS. How many stories has this Miner school building?

Mr. PETTY. It has ten schoolrooms in it, and I think it is a two-story and basement building.

The CHAIRMAN. The next is the amount required to pay the janitor of Chevy Chase building, \$40.

Mr. PETTY. That is required to pay the janitor until the 30th of June. In the coming year his salary is estimated at \$165. I think you have allowed that. This is to pay him from February 1 to June 30.

The CHAIRMAN. The next is the amount required to pay the janitor of the Stevens school building.

Mr. PETTY. That is to pay the janitor for taking care of the manual-training and cooking-school department in the Stevens school building, the appropriation, to which the remark of Mr. Courts probably refers, for care of small rooms, etc., which was not sufficient.

The CHAIRMAN. Will not that take care of the janitor.

Mr. PETTY. I hardly think so.

The CHAIRMAN. I want to know if this is extra pay, if the janitor gets \$800?

Mr. PETTY. I hardly think it can be. I think he is a special janitor, because there are usually janitors especially for that purpose.

The CHAIRMAN. Can not one janitor take care of the building?

Mr. PETTY. Yes, sir, ordinarily; but special services are required of those two. There is a letter here from Mr. Cook, but it does not give details about that.

The CHAIRMAN. I would like to know if this is extra pay to a janitor, and if the regular janitor attends to the work why he did not do it. Eleven hundred dollars is a pretty good pay for a janitor.

Mr. PETTY. The janitor of the Stevens, I think he gets \$800 or \$900. I see your point, and I will give you an answer on that. I see you do not want to pay any extra compensation.

The CHAIRMAN. A janitor, the world over, for school buildings will not average \$500.

The CLERK OF COMMITTEE. The janitor of the Stevens building gets \$1,100; that is a large colored-school building.

Mr. PETTY. Yes, the one you made an addition to a year ago. The additional janitor has nothing to do with the regular work of the building; I am sure of that, but still I will get the facts for you, besides.

The CHAIRMAN. For rent of Miner School building, \$2,250?

Mr. PETTY. This is the building we were speaking of a moment ago. We have been occupying that since the first of the year. We occupied it really last year, but did not occupy the whole of it last year, and you gave us an appropriation of \$1,250 for the portion we occupy; but this year we have occupied the whole of the building, and this is to pay the rent for one year. We paid this rent when we formerly occupied the whole building.

The CHAIRMAN. Did the District Committee on Appropriations recommend this?

The CLERK OF COMMITTEE. They did for the next fiscal year.

Mr. PETTY. Yes, sir; this is the amount included in the 1899 appropriation. Do you not remember I gave an estimate which included this?

The CHAIRMAN. This is for the same amount; for the same room; that is all.

Mr. PETTY. This is for the same basis this year.

The CHAIRMAN. For fuel, \$1,500?

Mr. PETTY. I want to say a word or two there. I was notified by the property clerk the fuel appropriation for the schools would not carry us through the year. It is exhausted to date, and he asked me to ask for an appropriation, and I have got an estimate made by the janitors of every building in the District of Columbia—have a detailed estimate with me here—and their estimate was it would take a little over \$4,000. Now I have cut that estimate down, and I have asked you to give me \$1,500 and give me authority to use the \$1,129 that we have remaining from last year. In other words, I have asked for authority to use \$1,129 and an appropriation of \$1,500, making altogether \$2,629. The estimate will take about \$4,000, but I did not ask for the full amount. I think we can get along with that.

The CHAIRMAN. Both added together would be \$2,600.

Mr. PETTY. It would be \$2,629, to be accurate. Altogether we would have, and the closest estimate made is for a little over \$4,000; but I think we will manage to get along with that amount.

The CHAIRMAN. Payment of referees, Court of Claims.

Mr. PETTY. That is something we are compelled to pay. Mr. Hackett was referee in some of those old claim cases pending in the Court of Claims under the act of June 16, 1880—you repealed the act of February 13, 1895, which enlarged the field of operation in the making of these claims—but we still are governed by the act of June 16, 1880, and Mr. Hackett has rendered service as referee under that act.

The CHAIRMAN. That is the amount allowed by the court?

Mr. PETTY. The amount allowed by the court.

The CHAIRMAN. Defending suits in claims.

Mr. PETTY. This is to pay our attorney, who is defending the District in those cases.

The CHAIRMAN. That is a thousand dollars?

Mr. PETTY. Two thousand dollars is the appropriation you have usually made, but that was on the basis of about eight months' service, but we found this year that it was necessary for the attorney to be constantly at work. He gets \$250 a month, so it requires that appropriation of \$1,000 for the balance of the year. The \$2,000 appropriation is about used up. He has earned every cent we pay him, too.

The CHAIRMAN. Freedmen's Hospital and Asylum. That is for some small bills for supplies, which do not amount to very much.

The CHAIRMAN. For the fiscal year 1896 it is \$26. Why has it not been appropriated for before?

Mr. PETTY. We failed to put it in last year's estimate.

The CHAIRMAN. For 1895 it is \$1.32. Those are ascertained amounts?

Mr. PETTY. Yes, sir; supplies have been furnished in these cases.

The CHAIRMAN. Police court?

Mr. PETTY. This is to pay Judge Mills for acting as judge of the police court during the illness of Judge Thomas F. Miller. He was sick for a long time and Mr. Mills acted in his place, and we must compensate him at the rate of \$10 a day.

The CHAIRMAN. What was the position of Mr. Mills?

Mr. PETTY. He was justice of the peace and commissioner of deeds, and frequently acted by appointment of the justices of the supreme court of the District of Columbia, which is in accordance with the law.

The CHAIRMAN. You say that it is in accordance with the law?

Mr. PETTY. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Does he get any compensation other than this?

Mr. PETTY. No, sir; he is not an officer of the Government, except as he was employed in these particular instances.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, that was for 1898?

Mr. PETTY. 1898, \$400; 1897, \$350.

The CHAIRMAN. Why did not we pay this in 1897?

Mr. PETTY. We had an appropriation of \$300 for that year, and that was exhausted, and this is an additional amount.

The CHAIRMAN. What is the matter with this judge; is he permanently disabled?

Mr. PETTY. He is dead now.

The CHAIRMAN. Who is the judge now?

Mr. PETTY. Judge Scott takes his place.

The CHAIRMAN. For 1895 it is \$10. Why was not this presented before?

Mr. PETTY. That was for one day, and there was some question about that. You appropriated for the year 1895; but there was some question about one day, and we did not ask for an appropriation at that time. He states he was entitled to it.

The CHAIRMAN. For amount required to pay outstanding certificates for witness's fees?

Mr. PETTY. Those are certificates filed with me.

The CHAIRMAN. For police court, addition to cells and other improvements, \$1,200.

Mr. PETTY. You have given us an appropriation of \$1,200 for that, but we found we could not build it. We wanted to build three additional cells; that is, we wanted to add another story. We have now three cells in the police court about 8 feet 6 inches by 9 feet 10 inches, and we want to place on top of those three additional cells and make some other improvements there, so as to make the building in a little better sanitary condition.

The CHAIRMAN. We gave you \$1,200.

Mr. PETTY. Yes, sir; but when we got bids from builders we found it was not near enough, so we concluded we would not do anything, and we now want to build three additional cells. One of the lowest responsible bids we got was \$2,200, so the building inspector has made a very careful estimate and I have the plans here that \$2,400 will give us the cells we need. If you ever take occasion to visit the cells you will see how greatly they are needed, and I hope you will give us the additional \$1,200.

The CHAIRMAN. Board of Children's Guardians, for administrative expenses, \$600.

Mr. PETTY. That is for the Board of Children's Guardians for administrative expenses. We have been notified within the last two days by the superintendent of charities that it would be necessary to make an appropriation for a larger sum than that, and there will be a letter here this afternoon setting forth the necessity of the case.

The CHAIRMAN. For which one of these items?

Mr. PETTY. For care of feeble-minded children.

The CHAIRMAN. But take the first item.

Mr. PETTY. That is for administrative expenses.

The CHAIRMAN. What has that been paid for?

Mr. PETTY. I think that is for transportation expenses.

The CHAIRMAN. I would like to know what it has been paid from heretofore.

Mr. PETTY. They have a regular appropriation of \$4,000 for it. This \$600 is an additional amount, and the care of feeble-minded children is an additional amount.

The CHAIRMAN. The appropriation is \$4,000, and I would like to know definitely about that.

Mr. PETTY. There is a letter here which will fully explain it. It is as follows:

OFFICE COMMISSIONERS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
Washington, March 12, 1898.

DEAR SIR: The Commissioners of the District of Columbia have the honor to herewith respectfully transmit a communication from the Superintendent of Charities of said District, stating the necessity for a deficiency appropriation for the Board of Children's Guardians. The Commissioners are impressed with the necessity for this appropriation.

Very respectfully,

JOHN W. ROSS,
President Board of Commissioners District of Columbia.

Hon. JOSEPH G. CANNON,
Chairman Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives.

OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT OF CHARITIES, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
Washington, March 10, 1898.

DEAR SIR: I have been asked to place before you the needs of the Board of Children's Guardians of the District of Columbia for the fiscal year 1898, as ascertained since the estimate for deficiencies of that year were made, and to ask for the appropriation of a larger sum than appeared to be necessary at the end of the first quarter of the year.

For this purpose I ask your attention to the following very brief statement:

First. Children are committed to the guardianship of the board by the courts of the District, and the board has no choice as to receiving all who are found to be within the intent of the act of Congress creating the board.

Second. The number of children retained on hand, and for whose maintenance the board is chargeable, was, on the 1st day of March, 1898, as follows:

Feeble-minded, 42; costing per annum	\$8, 675
Others in institution, 83; costing per annum	10, 521
Boarded with families, 140; costing per annum	14, 664
Additional for clothing and medical attendance for the above	950

Annual cost, on basis of March 1, 1898..... 34, 810

On that basis the expense for the last half of the year will be \$17,405. One-half of the present appropriation is \$11,700, and the deficit for the last half year will therefore be \$5,705, and, adding that shown for the first half, the total deficit in the maintenance fund is shown to be \$6,702.50.

Third. Not all of this deficit will be needed for the support of feeble-minded children, as would seem to be indicated by the estimate (Doc. 319, p. 7), and if so appropriated can not be used. It should be "Care of feeble-minded children and care of children committed by the courts of the District of Columbia."

Fourth. Two and three years ago the board urged the appropriation of more money for administrative expenses as a means of economy, showing that \$2,000 added to that fund then would take the place of three times as much in another fund now. The additional amount was not given, and the expected deficit is on hand, according to schedule.

Fifth. The estimate for \$600 additional for administrative expenses (Doc. 319, p. 7) must cover deficiencies for both 1897 and 1898. The amount is right.

Herewith I hand you a statement more in detail, made up by the agent of the board.

Respectfully,

HERRBERT W. LEWIS,
Superintendent of Charities, District of Columbia.

Hon. JOSEPH G. CANNON,
Chairman Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives.

The amounts now known to be absolutely necessary to meet deficiencies in the appropriation for the expenses of the Board of Children's Guardians for the current fiscal year are:

For administrative expenses (transportation only).....	\$600. 00
For board and care of all children, including the feeble-minded and temporary charges, medical attendance and supplies, clothing, etc.....	6, 702. 50

The actual deficit at the close of the second quarter was \$1,714. 22 in the fund for maintenance and \$140. 86 in the administrative fund. Close calculation shows that the deficit at the end of the third quarter will be not less than \$3,850 in the maintenance fund and \$250 in the administrative fund.

The probable expense for maintenance during the final quarter of the year is shown by the following brief statement:

On March 1 the total number of children on expense for maintenance was 263, classified as follows:

In institutions:

Industrial Home School, 32, at \$123 per annum	\$3, 936. 00
Newsboys' and Children's Aid Society, 24, at \$120 per annum	2, 880. 00
Hart Farm School, 11, at \$195 per annum	2, 145. 00
National Colored Home, 8, at \$96 per annum	768. 00
House of Good Shepherd (Baltimore), 5, at \$100 per annum	500. 00
House of Good Shepherd (Washington), 2, at \$96 per annum	192. 00
St. Mary's Industrial School (Baltimore), 1, at \$100 per annum	100. 00
Pennsylvania Training School for Feeble-minded Children—	
28, at \$225 per annum	6, 300. 00
3, at \$100 per annum	300. 00

In institutions—Continued.

Virginia Training School for Feeble-minded Children—

2, at \$250 per annum	\$500. 00
7, at \$225 per annum	1, 575. 00

Total yearly cost in institutions..... 19, 196. 00

In boarding homes:

42 at \$120 per annum.....	5, 040
32 at \$108 per annum.....	3, 456
59 at \$96 per annum.....	5, 664
6 at \$84 per annum.....	504
1 at \$60 per annum.....	60

Total yearly cost in boarding homes..... 14, 724

Total yearly cost in institutions..... 19, 196

Total yearly cost for medical attendance and supplies 750 |

Total yearly cost for clothing..... 200

Total yearly cost for maintenance 34, 870

It will be seen from the above figures that if no more children are received during the last three months of the year, the maintenance expense for that period will be \$8,717.50. As the quarterly allowance is but \$5,850, the deficit for the quarter will be \$2,867.50, and for the entire year \$6,717.50.

It will appear that no estimate is made for the care of new wards received during the last three months of the year. This is because we expect to offset such expense by discharging a number of the temporary cases, and also by placing a number in free family homes, in the anticipation that the increase of the administrative fund for the next fiscal year will enable us to give such children proper supervision.

On June 30, 1897, the number of children on expense for maintenance was 182. It is now 263, an increase of 81. This is because an inadequate administrative fund caused a suspension of the work of placing out. The board has also been unable to do justice to the large number of children (206) residing in family homes, and many have not been visited. The \$600 asked for the administration is to meet the deficit now actually existing, to respond to urgent calls for visitation, and to place a number of children in approved family homes in order that the expense for maintenance may be reduced.

The CHAIRMAN. Both these items?

Mr. PETTY. Both of the items in full. The next item is the contractors' guarantee fund, which is similar to the one under the permit appropriation.

The CHAIRMAN. I just asked for information. Refund of unused building permits?

Mr. PETTY. Mr. Nash paid us \$10 for five buildings, and for some reason afterwards he found he could not build. I do not think it was we would not allow him, but he could not carry forward his building operations and he asked for the refund of the \$10, as he did not use the permits; but, as the law only allows the refund of licenses where we refuse to grant a permit, of course we had no authority to give him his \$10 back. We have got his money and he never used the permit.

The CHAIRMAN. Refunding erroneously paid water rent?

Mr. PETTY. That is hardly an erroneous payment. That is to pay to a little church out here in the northeast section that, by accident, paid us assessments for water-main taxes. We do not usually make churches pay, but this little church did it, and paid the first installment, but did not pay any other, and this is to return what they paid.

The CHAIRMAN. You mean they do not pay under the law?

Mr. PETTY. No, sir; the law relieves churches from that.

The CHAIRMAN. And, notwithstanding, this was collected from the church; and this is to put them on the basis with other orthodox churches?

Mr. PETTY. That is right.

The CHAIRMAN. Police relief fund?

Mr. PETTY. That is an item with which you are familiar. I urged it upon your attention the last session of Congress. We only paid these pensioners—for two years before we began to pay them out of the revenues we only paid them in a number of instances about 60 per cent of their allowance, and this is to make up, I think, that deficiency.

The CHAIRMAN. That has been up before and has been turned down always.

Mr. PETTY. Last year I asked it, but it was not granted.

The CHAIRMAN. We had a hearing on that last year.

Mr. PETTY. I will be glad to have you grant it if you see your way clear to do so.

The CHAIRMAN. Support of convicts.

Mr. PETTY. That comes from the Attorney-General. That is not ours. That is an ascertained amount, though.

NAVY DEPARTMENT.

STATEMENT OF MRS. E. P. HANNA, CHIEF CLERK, OFFICE OF THE JUDGE-ADVOCATE-GENERAL.

NAUTILUS, STEAM YACHT.

The CHAIRMAN. Who can state to us in regard to the item for payment to owners of steam yacht Nautilus?

Mr. HANNA. I can state that exactly. We can not say that either party was to blame. The Department carefully investigated that and it did not appear clear the fault was with us. Our vessel was in the harbor of Bristol and was anchored with one anchor, and she was swept by a gale against the Nautilus and damaged the vessel.

The CHAIRMAN. Who made this note?

Mr. HANNA. That is substantially the case. That is to say, it did not appear clear—

The CHAIRMAN. Who wrote this note?

Mr. HANNA. I prepared it, or rather I had the direct preparation of it. That is as clear as we can state it.

The CHAIRMAN. That covers the ground, then. In other words, I do not care anything about the amount, but it is the matter of precedent purely, and we have to go on your note, which is in black and white.

Mr. HANNA. We merely stated we would ask you to reimburse these people, and this is not a case we regarded as a very clear one either way.

BUREAU OF EQUIPMENT.

STATEMENT OF MR. S. A. WILSON, OF THE BUREAU OF EQUIPMENT.

Mr. SAYERS. The first three items are ascertained accounts?

The CHAIRMAN. Yes. The last one is to pay for equipment of vessels, approved vouchers in hand, and obligations incurred prior to June 30, 1897, for which vouchers have not yet been received, being for the fiscal year 1897, \$7,500. What do you mean by approved vouchers in hand?

Mr. WILSON. We mean by that there are obligations out to the extent of \$7,500, and there were bills in at the time that estimate was made only covering about \$2,500 of that, and the balance are bills that have not been sent in for approval, and vouchers are approved to that extent, so that it makes outstanding obligations, of course, that will come in against us.

The CHAIRMAN. These accounts could all be audited, could they not?

Mr. WILSON. Yes; they could be audited, I suppose.

The CHAIRMAN. Just the same as the ones above of amounts found due by the accounting officers of the Treasury for the fiscal year 1897, \$2,015.11, as above?

Mr. WILSON. Of course that could be sent to the Auditor for settlement.

The CHAIRMAN. But in this case above they have been?

Mr. WILSON. Yes, sir. Those cases above are cases where they have come in, perhaps, after the appropriation is exhausted.

Mr. SAYERS. Mr. Wilson, there is no difference between the matter of accounts as embraced in the first two items and the third item, is there? They all stand in the same footing?

Mr. WILSON. Yes, sir.

Mr. SAYERS. That is to say, the accounts reimbursed by this third item would go to the auditing office to be audited?

Mr. WILSON. Yes; they would be audited.

The CHAIRMAN. And then they would be paid?

Mr. WILSON. No; we would pay them first and they would go to the auditing office afterwards.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, for the fiscal year 1897, Bureau of Equipment, \$2,015.11; you have not paid that?

Mr. WILSON. Oh, no; that we have not paid; that is an auditor's account entirely.

The CHAIRMAN. When these vouchers come in if you have not money enough to pay them they will take the same course?

Mr. WILSON. Certainly they would, and it has been customary always, where we know of an outstanding obligation, to make the estimate ourselves rather than to refer them to the auditor. It has always been customary to do that.

Mr. SAYERS. You have no question about the justice of this account or amount of it?

Mr. WILSON. None in the world, sir; they are properly due and we are only waiting to have the proper vouchers made to pay and the money to pay them with.

BROOKLYN NAVY-YARD.

STATEMENT OF MR. D. W. TAYLOR, OF THE BUREAU OF CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR.

The CHAIRMAN. In regard to the item for removal of construction and repair tools, etc., from building No. 14 and installation in other buildings in the navy-yard, Brooklyn, N. Y., \$18,400. That is in House Executive Document No. 276. How much did we give for that?

Mr. TAYLOR. Forty thousand dollars. I can explain that. There are two bureaus involved in that shift, the Bureau of Yards and Docks and the Bureau of Construction and Repair, and the \$40,000 was the estimate made by the Bureau of Yards and Docks for their part of the installation—

The CHAIRMAN. And that \$40,000 we appropriated?

Mr. TAYLOR. Yes, sir; and they got the \$40,000 and fitted up the shop, and the construction shop in No. 14 had to move to building No. 10, and this appropriation is to enable that building to be fitted up with the tools now in building No. 14.

The CHAIRMAN. Then when we made this first appropriation—

Mr. TAYLOR. That was the estimate of the Bureau of Yards and Docks. They have the \$40,000.

The CHAIRMAN. And you go into No. 10?

Mr. TAYLOR. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Who goes out of No. 10?

Mr. TAYLOR. It now belongs to us, and it was occupied mostly for an office building. No one goes out of No. 10.

The CHAIRMAN. You are all fixed now? This completes it, but No. 10 is not fitted up as a shop, and this is to fit up No. 10 as a shop. That is all you have?

Mr. TAYLOR. Yes, sir.

MARINE CORPS.

STATEMENT OF MAJ. F. D. DENNY.

The CHAIRMAN. With regard to item to pay accounts on file for repairs of buildings used for rifle range at marine barracks, Portsmouth, N. H., etc., what have you to say.

Major DENNY. It was a case where some enlisted men were detailed under the law which authorized extra per diem to them when working in addition to their military duties, and it seems while the appropriation appeared to be sufficient to warrant their payment some emergency vouchers had to be paid and charged against the appropriation, and they got in before that account did, and so that created a deficiency.

The CHAIRMAN. This does not seem to be for the pay of men—you say they were entitled to extra pay?

Major DENNY. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. "To pay accounts on file for repairs of buildings used for rifle range at marine barracks"—

Major DENNY. Yes, sir. It was extra-duty pay to enlisted men detailed to build that rifle range.

The CHAIRMAN. That is on Government property?

Major DENNY. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, in regard to pay for band instruments?

Major DENNY. That is a case where they sent some instruments that belonged to the Marine Band out to a place in Indiana to be repaired by the maker; and that was an emergency.

The CHAIRMAN. Go to the next item—to pay commutation of quarters for one enlisted man, \$120?

Major DENNY. That was a case of a difference of opinion between the Auditor of the Treasury and the quartermaster of the corps—then Major Lowry, since retired.

The CHAIRMAN. That has been audited, has it?

Major DENNY. No.

The CHAIRMAN. The Treasury turned it down?

Major DENNY. On this score, that in the naval appropriation bill there are so many dollars appropriated for the band leader and various enlisted men detailed on extra duty, and the quartermaster thought as long as that was a lump sum sufficient to pay the men, that could be done. The Auditor decided he could only pay to the amount of money appropriated for each individual mentioned in the appropriation bill. In other words, there was a difference in construction as to the meaning of the appropriation bill, and, of course, the Auditor's decision won and Major Lowry lost. The quartermaster made a mistake in doing that. He ought not to have paid this particular enlisted man more than that particular enlisted man was allowed in

the naval appropriation bill; but, as I stated, he thought the lump sum could be drawn again, and the question had never been decided; but the Auditor decided he could not exceed the specific sum allowed these men.

The CHAIRMAN. I suppose the man has been paid?

Major DENNY. No, sir; he is entitled to pay, he is performing service, and he is entitled under the law to hired quarters.

The CHAIRMAN. That is, he is entitled, provided it is authorized by law?

Major DENNY. Yes; provided it is appropriated.

The CHAIRMAN. The next item is to pay accounts on file for freight, etc., \$2,398.21. These claims might be audited, but have not been; that is, the vouchers have not been presented?

Major DENNY. No, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. And the next are accounts found due. What is the matter with these items where you ask authority for certain work done at Boston?

Major DENNY. It is where in each instance the work has been actually done and the amount of money available with which to pay such expenses was not sufficient to do it, owing to the fact these emergency purchases had to be made at various posts.

The CHAIRMAN. Why did they not audit these accounts, or did the Auditor turn them down?

Major DENNY. That is a case—I beg your pardon. That was another point entirely. It seems there the accounting officer made an arrangement with a certain number of enlisted men to perform certain labor at barracks and it seems that the enlisted men were regular men engaged in that business, and it was subsequently found that they were men who were in the service and they had performed this in addition to their regular duties and had made a regular proposal that was accepted by the commanding officer competitively and the Auditor decided that it was improper; that these enlisted men ought not to have done that; that no business arrangement should have been entered into with these enlisted men. He states, however, in a letter to me and in my letter to the Secretary of the Navy transmitting all these deficiency matters, it was a case where there was a departure from a formal proceeding and where the Government received an equivalent in labor and material for the moneys expended.

The CHAIRMAN. These parties were under the pay of the Government, otherwise—

Major DENNY. They did it in addition to the service they were required to furnish the Government.

The CHAIRMAN. That is to say, they took the time which belonged to the Government and did this work?

Major DENNY. No, sir; they performed their usual duties, and, after those were performed, did this work.

The CHAIRMAN. And for the reason they were in the pay of the Government the Auditor refused to pay the account?

Major DENNY. Not so much that as no contract should have been made with the enlisted men; that was the point. If these men had been civilians it would have been perfectly proper to make a contract with them, but as they were in the service, the commanding officer—

The CHAIRMAN. Is that the habit which obtained in the Navy?

Major DENNY. That ought not to have been done, I am satisfied.

The CHAIRMAN. Have these men got their money?

Major DENNY. These men have been paid. They were paid by the quartermaster, and then the Auditor checked that amount of money against the quartermaster.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that all you have?

Major DENNY. Yes, sir; that is all.

NORFOLK NAVY-YARD.

STATEMENT OF ADMIRAL E. O. MATTHEWS.

The CHAIRMAN. We want to ask you about the repair of Dry Dock No. 2 at navy-yard, Norfolk, Va., where you submit an estimate of \$15,000.

Commodore MATTHEWS. Dry Dock No. 2, Norfolk, is a wooden one, and all this wood [illustrating on drawing] near the surface of the ground rots off so that the whole top of this has to be removed, and in doing it we made an estimate of \$20,000, but when we came to cut down we found it was very much worse than we estimated and we had to cut much lower, and that involves an extra appropriation of \$15,000.

The CHAIRMAN. You had an appropriation for \$20,000, or did you use that from the repair of docks?

Commodore MATTHEWS. We had an appropriation of \$20,000 for this year.

The CHAIRMAN. Was it a specific appropriation or did you take it from your regular appropriation?

Commodore MATTHEWS. It was a specific appropriation of \$20,000 for the dock, and with our last bill we have paid over \$17,700 on that work.

The CHAIRMAN. And it is ascertained it will take \$35,000 instead of \$20,000?

Commodore MATTHEWS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. What kind of a dock is this?

Commodore MATTHEWS. It is a wooden dock.

The CHAIRMAN. What size?

Commodore MATTHEWS. It is a dock 500 feet long.

The CHAIRMAN. No account except to take an ordinary vessel; it will not take any great vessel?

Commodore MATTHEWS. It will not take battle ships. It is not wide enough for battle ships and it is not deep enough except at very light draft.

The CHAIRMAN. When you get it done will it be of any account?

Commodore MATTHEWS. Oh, yes, sir. It docks all our smaller vessels.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you got water enough to get to it?

Commodore MATTHEWS. Yes, sir; we have got 30 feet of water.

The CHAIRMAN. It is not inland, like the one at Port Royal?

Commodore MATTHEWS. I say water enough. We have dredged the channel abreast of the yard 30 feet. The channel up to the yard is about 28 feet at high water, but they are dredging there now. It is soft mud they are dredging.

The CHAIRMAN. This appropriation of \$20,000 was made on the naval bill?

Commodore MATTHEWS. Yes, sir; on the regular appropriation bill.

The CHAIRMAN. How long will it take to complete the dock?

Commodore MATTHEWS. Well, we are doing it as quickly as possible, but we are using the dock all the time and that delays us, and it is hard to say exactly when that will be done; but we have used up \$17,700 of that money already this year, but you see we are interrupted there by vessels coming in.

The CHAIRMAN. It is really a serviceable dock?

Commodore MATTHEWS. Yes, sir; it is the largest dock we have there, but all these wooden docks have rotted right around here [illustrating].

The CHAIRMAN. How long has it been built?

Commodore MATTHEWS. It was opened in 1889. Now we are cutting them all—this shaded part here shows the rotten part—and we are putting on concrete here, you see, to protect the dry part.

BUREAU OF SUPPLIES AND ACCOUNTS.

STATEMENT OF MR. N. S. FAUCETT.

The CHAIRMAN. Your first item is contingent, Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, where you ask \$3,000 additional, and you had \$50,000.

Mr. FAUCETT. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. I note you say the deficiency is due to transportation of naval supply fund stores—a new item of expense under this appropriation. Now, I do not expect to learn all about it, but what is the “naval supply fund,” and where was that paid from before?

Mr. FAUCETT. The Naval Committee would, of course, understand that much better than yourselves; but a fund has been created under the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts known as the “naval supply fund,” under which we purchase naval supplies and keep a large stock of them in store all the time, to furnish vessels in our yards, and keep them chiefly at New York and Norfolk—those being the navy-yards—and the transportation of these supplies from one place and another to vessels when they are away from those yards has created this deficiency.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, this is contingent?

Mr. FAUCETT. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. Can not you pay for the transportation from the item?

Mr. FAUCETT. No, sir; that only authorizes the actual purchase of supplies. There is one little item, under the Bureau of Navigation, possibly, they asked me to speak about—\$122, I think.

The CHAIRMAN. That is to pay the Old Colony Steamboat Company \$122?

Mr. FAUCETT. It is simply one approved voucher on file, and Mr. Crowningshield asked me, if you wanted to ask any questions, to state the fact that the voucher was on file in our office for payment when the appropriation is made.

The CHAIRMAN. That is for the transportation of 61 men from New York to Newport, R. I.?

Mr. FAUCETT. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. It is for the fiscal year 1896?

Mr. FAUCETT. Yes, sir. For some reason the bill was long delayed in getting in. Sometimes a bill will be delayed in that way, and this did not come in until after the fund under that appropriation had been covered into the Treasury into the surplus fund. There was actually no deficiency in the appropriation for that year, but this bill did not come in until the money had been turned into the Treasury.

The CHAIRMAN. It is a legal expenditure?

Mr. FAUCETT. Yes, sir; it is all right, sir.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

PATENT OFFICE.

STATEMENT OF MR. A. P. GREELEY.

The CHAIRMAN. We have an item for producing the Official Gazette, etc., and the appropriations for 1898 was \$95,900, your exact estimate, and you submit a deficiency of \$12,678.03?

Mr. GREELEY. That is due to the increase in the number of pages to be reproduced. The Official Gazette is published each week, containing a drawing and claims of each patent issued, and we have to issue as many pages as we have patents. That is the number of pages due to the number of patents.

The CHAIRMAN. Is it done by contract?

Mr. GREELEY. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. So much a page?

Mr. GREELEY. So much a page.

The CHAIRMAN. And under that contract the number of pages exceeds \$95,900, and you require \$108,000?

Mr. GREELEY. That is the estimate we made based upon the increased work of the first half of the fiscal year.

The CHAIRMAN. And you think that will pan out that way the last half?

Mr. GREELEY. It is going on the same way.

The CHAIRMAN. The most you ever did expend was \$99,000. This is made by contract. Is the rate increased?

Mr. GREELEY. The rate is the same as it has been for the last three years, with one exception. In 1895-96 it was less than it is at the present time; \$5.10 a page is the lowest we have ever had, with the exception of that one year.

The CHAIRMAN. What is it now?

Mr. GREELEY. Five dollars and ten cents.

The CHAIRMAN. What was it in 1895-96?

Mr. GREELEY. During that one year I think it was \$4.50, but I will not be certain of that fact.

The CHAIRMAN. Was it 1895 or 1896, or both?

Mr. GREELEY. For the year ending June 30, 1896.

The CHAIRMAN. I see the appropriation for 1895 was only \$38,300; it must have been much lower than that.

Mr. GREELEY. That is an item for photolithographing the Official Gazette.

The CHAIRMAN. No; I have got it here under the head of the Official Gazette.

Mr. GREELEY. The Official Gazette part of it is by contract work and the rest is done by the Government Printing Office. The contractor furnishes us with 7,000 copies of illustrated pages.

The CHAIRMAN. Has there been any change in the matter of publishing?

Mr. GREELEY. There is no change in the matter of publishing.

The CHAIRMAN. The Gazette for 1898 is the same as it was for 1897?

Mr. GREELEY. Precisely the same. All this work is paid for by the inventors who take out patents—

The CHAIRMAN. That makes no difference. The Government is carried on by money collected, and all that kind of thing, but what I want to know is whether—the clerk calls my attention to the fact that on another bill there was a proposition to enlarge this Official Gazette and print something in addition to what has heretofore been printed.

Mr. GREELEY. There was one year; there has been none for the present year, so far as I am aware. There was at one time a proposition to include the expired patents, but that was kept up for only one year, or a part of the year, and was then discontinued.

The CHAIRMAN. Was not there a suggestion by Mr. Butterworth that he wanted to enlarge the edition from 5,000 to 6,000, or 6,000 to 7,000?

Mr. GREELEY. He wanted to increase the issue from 7,000 to 10,000.

The CHAIRMAN. But that was not done?

Mr. GREELEY. It was not estimated for.

The CHAIRMAN. And your work has been actually done as it has heretofore been actually done for the year 1897?

Mr. GREELEY. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. And this increase is made necessary from the fact that more pages have to be printed to report the additional number of patents?

Mr. GREELEY. Exactly.

The CHAIRMAN. And the rest of this work is being done now at the Government Printing Office in the city?

Mr. GREELEY. At the Government Printing Office and by the Norris-Peters Company, the contractors for the photolithographic work.

The CHAIRMAN. It is all done in Washington?

Mr. GREELEY. Yes, sir; it is all done in Washington.

The CHAIRMAN. The next item is for producing copies of drawings of the weekly issues of patents. There you ask an increase of \$10,000, and we gave you the full estimate.

Mr. GREELEY. That is due to the increase in the number of patents issued. All patents have to be printed, the drawings photolithographed, and printed in letter-press, the description and specification of the drawings at the Government Printing Office. The number of patents on which official fees are paid determine the number to be printed.

The CHAIRMAN. What are you paying for this work now?

Mr. GREELEY. It is, I think, 84 cents for 100 copies on ordinary paper, which are kept for sale, for each sheet of drawing, and I think a cent and a half for one bond copy which goes with the patent, and I think it is 2 cents for the two thick paper copies.

The CHAIRMAN. Has there been an increase in the price?

Mr. GREELEY. There has been no increase.

The CHAIRMAN. Then this just represents, as I understand it, merely the increase in the number of patents and the increase of business?

Mr. GREELEY. Yes, sir; the increase of patents.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, for binding 1,300 volumes of periodicals, etc. That seems to be a new item?

Mr. GREELEY. That has been paid for, so far as the work has been done, out of the general appropriation for the Interior Department for printing and binding. The work has accumulated, and we have never been able out of that appropriation to bind the number of books necessary and there are now 1,300 on hand unbound.

The CHAIRMAN. How many volumes have you in your library?

Mr. GREELEY. About 70,000.

The CHAIRMAN. The general appropriation for binding and printing is available for this?

Mr. GREELEY. It is.

The CHAIRMAN. In the Interior Department?

Mr. GREELEY. In the Interior Department so far as it is—

The CHAIRMAN. If this is appropriated for, it ought to be appropriated for printing and binding. We gave the Interior Department all they wanted; we gave them a deficiency of \$40,000 the other day.

Mr. GREELEY. That is true.

Mr. SAYERS. Can not you use some of that \$40,000 for this purpose?

Mr. GREELEY. Yes; I suppose that will be available for this purpose?

Mr. SAYERS. You have been using it?

Mr. GREELEY. We have been using it.

The CHAIRMAN. The next item is for expenses of transporting publications of patents issued by the Patent Office to foreign Governments, \$800.

Mr. GREELEY. That was submitted in a little different form. In the letter of January 13, which was transmitted by the Secretary of the Treasury on January 14, there is an appropriation of \$800 to provide the Bureau with postage to use on foreign mail matter. We receive applications from foreign countries and it is necessary in communicating with them on the action by the office to pay this postage. It is also necessary in the payment of transportation for the Gazette, which is subscribed or at so much a year by foreign subscribers—

The CHAIRMAN. Can not this be paid from the contingent fund of the Interior Department?

Mr. GREELEY. The Interior Department has a separate appropriation for this purpose; \$3,000.

The CHAIRMAN. How much did you expend up to the 1st of January from this appropriation?

Mr. GREELEY. I can not tell you definitely, but the whole amount for the Interior Department is, I understand, expended within a very few dollars.

The CHAIRMAN. I mean for this particular transportation of publications of patents issued by the Patent Office to foreign countries. Now, you have got \$3,000, and your estimate for 1899 is \$3,000, and yet you come with this deficiency of \$800, making \$3,800 for the current year, when you only estimate \$3,000 for the year 1899. Is not this the fact about it: The appropriation covers this matter for purchase of professional and scientific books and expense of transportation of publications of patents issued by the Patent Office to foreign Governments, \$3,000. Now, then, you use this money to buy books?

Mr. GREELEY. That item is all right. The item entered in the bill is not the item which we sent up. The transportation of publications, etc., is paid for out of that appropriation, but what we ask for is a deficiency of \$800 to provide the Patent Office with postage for use on this foreign mail matter.

The CHAIRMAN. That has always been paid from this item?

Mr. GREELEY. It has been paid out of the appropriation of \$3,000 for the whole Interior Department for postage to Postal Union countries, Department of the Interior.

The CHAIRMAN. Then we want to strike this out here. Why do you not pay that from "Postage stamps for the Department of the Interior and its bureaus, as required under the Postal Union to prepay postage on matters addressed to Postal Union countries, \$3,000."

Mr. GREELEY. We understand from the Secretary that is exhausted, and our requisitions for further stamps are not honored.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you got any estimate of that from the Secretary?

Mr. GREELEY. The item can go as an increase for the payment of postage.

The CHAIRMAN. You do not know what was expended on that item for the first six months?

Mr. GREELEY. But they report to us that item is exhausted, and we are compelled to hold up communications to foreign inventors for lack of postage, and the same way with the Gazette.

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

STATEMENT OF MR. CHARLES D. WALCOTT, DIRECTOR OF THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

The CHAIRMAN. The first item is for engraving the illustrations necessary for the monographs and bulletins, \$20,000, and the second one is for printing and binding the monographs and bulletins, \$42,000. The ones you want to print are the geology of the Aspen mining district, Colorado, by Josiah Edward Spurr; the geology of the Yellowstone National Park, the geology of the Narragansett Basin, the glacial gravels of Maine and their associated deposits, later extinct floras of North America, and the flora of the lower coal measures of Missouri, making a total of \$45,000, and the bulletins on hydrographic subjects are 19. This document 174 tells all you want to say about it?

Mr. WALCOTT. It tells substantially the whole story, unless you wish to inquire more particularly about these reports.

The CHAIRMAN. Did you not refer to these when you were before us on the urgent deficiency bill?

Mr. WALCOTT. Yes, sir; but I did not go into it at any length. I can only say every day, and every moment, almost, these lie unpublished is a disadvantage. They have been ready for a number of months, and there are strong, urgent demands upon us for the work, and for the Aspen mining district—especially they wish that. The geology of the Narragansett Basin—this is the only work that has been published in regard to Rhode Island covering the coal field, and we have gone into that at great length. The glacial gravels of Maine and their associated deposits cover all the economical clays, gravels from which come the domestic water supply, and the later extinct floras of North America, covering what is called the Tertiary floras, are of especial value in determining the various horizons in which coal exists; and the flora of the lower coal measures of Missouri is the result of the study of the various coal horizons, and is of value not only to Missouri but the entire Mississippi coal basin. That has been taken as a typical locality. The Yellowstone Park is of a different type, and his report upon the Yellowstone brings in the character of the various deposits, hot springs, and everything pertaining to the geology of the park. These bulletins speak for themselves and go into the use of water not only for irrigation, but for power and methods of handling it, and everything of that kind. It is really the result of work which was formerly done by the Agricultural Department under their appropriation, which was transferred to the Survey two or three years ago.

The CHAIRMAN. This is a lot of work that has been doing for years?

Mr. WALCOTT. And has just been brought to date. The money has been appropriated, as has been stated here, for doing it before; but it was not used because the work was not brought up.

May I speak of another item for which you have no estimate? For the mineral resources this year I estimated \$20,000. The work is well in hand, with the exception of the clay deposits. We started on that work two years ago and it has grown very rapidly. We find that the clay products of the country amount to over \$30,000,000 per annum, and we now have 9,000 people from whom we are receiving returns; but we wish to push that work and make it more complete, and that will require a little more money than we have. The people in charge of the Omaha Exposition have asked within a few days that Dr. Day, who left, I think it was Wednesday of this week, for Omaha—these people wish him to take charge of their exhibit the same as at Atlanta, and if he does that I should like to have him visit all the States west of the Mississippi to get in touch with the mineral producers and from personal inspection

tion find out the condition of the mineral products, not merely gold and silver, but all the mineral products, west of the Mississippi River.

When the Atlanta exhibit was in preparation he went through the South, all the Southern States from the bottom of the South out to the Mississippi, and we found a great deal we did not know before in that way. To do this and to carry on this more full investigation of clay deposits, he estimates it will take about \$3,000. I simply wish to present that to the committee with the statement of what we would like to use it for, to be used effectually and to increase the value of the mineral resources, and in that connection Dr. Day might take charge of the exhibit and the plan and arranging of it, and that will take his time away from Washington for two months. The Nicaragua Canal project commission asked that we would assign a geologist to them, and later asked to have a hydrographer assigned, and we sent two of our best men. I understand it is perfectly proper to cooperate in this manner, but it takes away a little and sometimes considerably from our effective work. I make that statement to you.

The CHAIRMAN. You want, on the basis of cooperation with Omaha, to enable him to do the work in connection therewith \$3,000 additional?

Mr. WALCOTT. For our mineral resources.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

STATEMENT OF MR. GEORGE REDWAY, CHIEF OF DIVISION OF ACCOUNTS.

The CHAIRMAN. What is there about this item for publishing list of lands classified by the several boards of mineral land commissioners, etc., \$629.70?

Mr. REDWAY. Mr. Chairman, Mr. Hermann, in view of the character of these recommendations, in his absence asked me to represent him in this matter. These items of expenditures are for advertising the mineral and nonmineral lists under the act providing for the publication of such lists by the mineral land commissioners. The act is found in volume 23, page 685. The publication of these lists was mandatory, and the amount expended for advertising by this much exceeded the appropriation of \$10,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Why did not they audit their claims?

Mr. REDWAY. I think they have.

The CHAIRMAN. I mean audit through the accounting officers.

Mr. REDWAY. They have already been submitted to the Treasury Department.

The CHAIRMAN. Have they been turned down there?

Mr. REDWAY. No, sir; they were all approved.

The CHAIRMAN. I do not understand it that way.

Mr. REDWAY. I beg pardon. The reason why is because these are paid by the disbursing officer of the Department, and he will not pay anything when there is not anything to pay it out of; and these matters never go to the Treasury except a demand has been made, and there could not be any payment because there was no money available.

The CHAIRMAN. Why can not they go to the Treasury like any other account of a fund that was lawfully authorized; why could not they go to the Treasury and be audited and be certified there?

Mr. REDWAY. That is not customary; it has never been done.

The CHAIRMAN. It is done in most other cases?

Mr. REDWAY. It is done in certain kinds of cases, as, for example, surveying accounts; they go through our office, and all sorts of claims that come in.

The CHAIRMAN. You say this service was called for by law?

Mr. REDWAY. Yes, sir; it is mandatory; and the publication of these lists by the mineral-land commissioners must be made. They are required to have them made, and the payment of them is fixed by law, and it is by regulation that certain accounts are allowed only, and those amounts are correct.

Mr. SAYERS. But do not your accounts go to the Treasury Department?

Mr. REDWAY. Not these accounts until payment is made, and payment was not made in these cases because the money was—

Mr. SAYERS. This is an exception to the rule of the accounts of your Department?

Mr. REDWAY. Yes, sir; that is so. There are certain accounts, as, for example, the accounts of the disbursing agent or clerk of the Interior Department. Suppose—it could not be possible—that in paying the clerks of the General Land Office, for example, he found that the law authorized the payment of a certain number of clerks at certain specific salaries and the appropriation had not been enough; then he would stop paying as soon as the appropriation was exhausted; and that is precisely the case in this matter. He will not pay it when there is no money to pay it with.

The CHAIRMAN. Let me ask you—to pay the Idaho Daily Statesman for publishing

May and June list of lands classified by the board for the Cœur d'Alene land district during the month of April, 1897, the sum of \$228; for publishing the same in the Kootenai Herald, \$170, and so on. What is the difference; are your rates fixed by law or regulations?

Mr. REDWAY. They are required to publish these advertisements at the lowest commercial rates of those papers. Now, the rate of one paper is at one figure and the other at another. You will notice that the law provides that the publication shall be in the county in which the lands are located and also the publication of the same advertisement in a paper at the capital city. Well, the capital city paper frequently has higher rates, as you all know. Where there is a large paper you have to pay more. This is found in volume 28, page 685. This is a very long list and printed in small type, and this is mandatory, and they have no discretion as to whether they will publish this or not.

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

STATEMENT OF MR. WILLIAM A. JONES, COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

The CHAIRMAN. Under the head, to pay the expenses of purchasing goods and supplies for the Indian service and pay of necessary employees, etc., you submitted an estimate for 1898 of \$40,000, and Congress gave you \$40,000, and you now submit a deficiency of \$5,000. Why the increase?

Mr. JONES. Well, the increase in that is largely, I think, due to telegraphing and also in the management of the warehouses. The work in the warehouses has been so much greater that I am told it has necessitated that increase.

The CHAIRMAN. Why should it? You do not make any more purchases.

Mr. JONES. I think we did. They told me they purchased more goods.

The CHAIRMAN. How much was expended, do you recollect, for the first six months?

Mr. JONES. This is the argument we submitted; I do not know you have ever had it here; and if you will permit me—there is large increase in advertising this year as compared with the last year. Heretofore it has been advertising in weekly papers, and in some cases we reduced it so low we used posters instead of newspapers, and you find quite a good many instances we had no bids at all. The advertising was not general enough to solicit any bids and no bids were received, and we found we had to disseminate it a little more widely in order to get bids, and there is a large increase on that. We had to advertise in daily papers and of course the rates as stated here are higher than the weekly papers.

The CHAIRMAN. You say here, "for necessary employees." Will you increase the number of employees?

Mr. JONES. In the warehouses we have inspectors. We have had to pay a great many more for the purpose of assisting schools, and we have had to employ inspectors for the different schools in order to try to have delivered what we bought.

The CHAIRMAN. You have increased the number of schools, I suppose; they are increasing now, year by year?

Mr. JONES. Increasing steadily; yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. There is a warehouse at Omaha now?

Mr. JONES. It has not been opened.

The CHAIRMAN. And one at Chicago?

Mr. JONES. And one in New York.

The CHAIRMAN. We have got the same number of warehouses this year we had last year?

Mr. JONES. Yes, sir; the warehouse at Omaha has not been opened, and if we are possibly able to open it we will do so, but I am afraid we will not be able to do so.

The CHAIRMAN. Is the opening of the warehouse at Omaha involved in this appropriation? If we make it you will not open it, and if we do not make it you will not open it?

Mr. JONES. Not to that extent. It is simply a deficiency in the present year. Whether we open the Omaha warehouse is another question. We will not be able to open the Omaha warehouse if we get this \$5,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you got an itemized statement of what this increase is for?

Mr. JONES. Yes, sir; and if you will permit me I will read a part of that, or you can look it over.

The CHAIRMAN. I just want to see the items of increase. In looking at this I find you do not state how much you pay for advertising here, but state the cost of advertising for the fiscal year 1897 was \$4,500, and that a few years before it was double this amount?

Mr. JONES. These are at the commercial rates.

The CHAIRMAN. But I mean you do not give the aggregate. You do say here that in 1897 it was \$4,500, but you do not say what it is in 1898.

Mr. JONES. We are advertising now and the total amount is incomplete.

The CHAIRMAN. Will it be doubled? This advertising covering this \$5,000, will it be as much as double that?

Mr. JONES. Double what?

The CHAIRMAN. What it was last year. I just want to get an explanation. You are general in all your statements here.

Mr. JONES. Heretofore, several years ago, we took the advertising in a great many daily newspapers—New York papers, three or four, we used as an advertising medium. After that we cut it down and went to the other extreme and advertised in the weekly papers in the country, and, as I stated before, we found we could not get the competition we desired in the bids and we tried to strike a medium, and now we advertise on an average in about three large city dailies, one in New York, Chicago, and one either in Kansas City or Omaha.

The CHAIRMAN. I understand. Can you give us a statement of that in detail?

Mr. JONES. I could get it for you.

The CHAIRMAN. I wish you would, and write us a letter covering that. In other words, we gave you the whole estimate and you come now and say you want \$5,000 more. Now, give us a statement showing it is \$1,000 for this, that, or the other, covering the increase in addition to what you had.

Mr. JONES. What you want is the item for what we paid for advertising—

The CHAIRMAN. No; the items of expense which cover this \$5,000 increase. Suppose you employ a couple more men; I want you to show the increase in the service, because we appropriated for 1898 the \$40,000 which you estimated for, and your estimate this year is what? Forty thousand dollars?

Mr. JONES. I do not remember what the estimate this year is, but I will give the items where the increase appears; that is what you want?

The CHAIRMAN. Your argument is general along here, and what I want is specific. You need not make it very long.

Mr. JONES. I will get the items. (See letter page 34.)

The CHAIRMAN. I wish you would, and write us a letter about that.

Mr. JONES. In regard to the next item, for traveling expenses of Indian inspectors, I do not know I could give you the exact points where it was increased requiring a deficiency of \$1,000, but the expenses run up in spite of anything we could do, so there is a deficiency of \$1,000 in the appropriation. We have an appropriation of \$7,000, and when the bills came in they overran

The CHAIRMAN. Have you done any more travel this year than heretofore?

Mr. JONES. I presume so.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you got what you expended for the first six months there?

Mr. JONES. You understand the inspectors are under the Secretary's office. They are not in our office at all, but we pay them their expenses.

The CHAIRMAN. That you would not know about?

Mr. JONES. No; but I could find that out for you by going over to the office.

The CHAIRMAN. The next item is to pay amounts found due by the accounting officers of the Treasury on account of the appropriation for traveling expenses of Indian inspectors, \$33.90.

Mr. JONES. There is a large item below there of \$75,000.

The CHAIRMAN. That is the item for necessary expenses of transportation of goods, etc., including pay and expenses of transportation of Indian agents, etc., \$75,000.

Mr. JONES. The deficiency here is occasioned by the advance in the rates we had to pay these contractors. As you all know, we have got to ask for bids for transportation. We can not ship on open market like anybody else, but we have to ask bids. At the letting we found there were only four bidders, I think there were only four, for the transportation of those goods, and they evidently had formed a combine, so they had parceled the territory and put in their bids accordingly, and we found that the amount we had to pay this year over what we had to pay last year was about 33 per cent, a little over that, increase. We had no way of avoiding it, because the law compels advertising for bids for transportation. We have submitted an amendment (I do not know whether it is before your committee or not) asking if you could not give the Secretary the option of shipping in the open market or asking for bids, and I think it was thrown out on a point of order on the Indian bill. These contractors have their attorneys here in town—

The CHAIRMAN. Was that reported on the Indian bill?

Mr. JONES. It was thrown out on a point of order in the House. Let me tell you, we have got an argument here where we have taken 11 representative railroad points west—I tried to find it; I thought it was in the Indian committee room, but they did not have it—showing the amount paid this year to those railroad points compared with last year, and, as I tell you, it was about 33 per cent difference. We took the same points and figures on the regular open-market rates the railroad would ship with their classification and we found we paid a little over \$10,000 to these con-

tractors more than if we shipped in the open market with the railroads. Now, we could not avoid it.

The CHAIRMAN. You mean on all your transportation of the supplies you purchased in New York or elsewhere if you send them to the Chicago warehouse or the New York warehouse and from the warehouse to the Indian reservations or schools, as the case may be—you mean that all that transportation you advertise for?

Mr. JONES. We are compelled to, under the law.

The CHAIRMAN. And you give that to the lowest and best bidder?

Mr. JONES. To the lowest bidder.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, you say that is let to four different people?

Mr. JONES. We have four principal and one or two small points which do not amount to anything, but the transportation is considerable to those four places.

The CHAIRMAN. Who are they; do you recollect?

Mr. JONES. I do not remember them. There is a man named Coster, and I have forgotten the others.

The CHAIRMAN. Will you write us a letter and give us the contracts, and will you state also in the letter how much you pay over the market price?

Mr. JONES. Yes, sir.

Mr. SAYERS. Send that argument you made.

Mr. JONES. In that statement we took eleven representative points, and we paid nearly \$11,000 more. Now, it will be impossible for us to give you the exact amount at all points we had to pay over and above the railroad rates, because we can not find the classification to those points or the exact number of points we shipped under the classification, but at these eleven representative points we have it absolutely. I will have a copy made of that.

The CHAIRMAN. Make it as short as you can to cover the subject.

Mr. JONES. It is in a tabular form, so you can look it over in ten seconds.

Mr. SAYERS. Have you any idea why that law was enacted?

Mr. JONES. It has been long ago. I do not know anything about it. It was under the general law you have, to advertise for everything over \$3,000.

Mr. SAYERS. Does that law apply to all departments?

Mr. JONES. I think not. I think the Army have some other law.

The CHAIRMAN. Will you not please run that whole question down and let us know how many branches of the Government are not required to ship under that law and how many are?

Mr. JONES. I will do that. I know that the Army does not, because we intended last year—I found out that there was a provision somewhere in the law that gives the right to ask the Army people to ship for us at open-market rates, and if we could have done that at all these points we would have saved, as I told you, on these 11 different points a little over \$10,000. There is a certain provision that gave us the right to ship under the Army regulations. The attorneys practicing before the Indian Office were in the building, the building was swarming with them, and I found there was something wrong, because they would come and ask once in awhile what was the status of this amendment. They asked that in an offhand way, and the first thing we knew it was thrown out on a point of order, and if there is any way of getting it in, gentlemen, we will save thousands of dollars.

The CHAIRMAN. This is an item of \$75,000?

Mr. JONES. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, I want you, in this letter you write us, to give us the amount that was expended—this is all for freight, pure and simple?

Mr. JONES. Nothing else.

The CHAIRMAN. Does it require this amount to meet your contracts?

Mr. JONES. Yes. As I told you, there is a difference there of a little over 33 per cent in the amount we have had to pay this year. Of course railroad rates have advanced some little and are higher this year than last year; but these contractors found out they had us and combined and simply parceled out the territory to suit themselves and put in their bids and we could not help ourselves and we had to let them have it or not ship the goods.

The CHAIRMAN. When do these contracts expire?

Mr. JONES. Just as soon as the letting in May, when we ask for new bids. We are willing to advertise this—we do now—and if these contractors find it is optional to accept their bids or ship in the open markets they will be fair with us. It is far easier for the office to ship as we are doing now, as far as the work is concerned, as it will make more work for the office if we ship in open market; but the Government will save thousands and tens of thousands of dollars every year, I am satisfied.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there anything else?

Mr. JONES. There is a little item below which is Treasury business.

The CHAIRMAN. I suppose you ship some more of those supplies than you did?

Mr. JONES. Some little; but that does not cut much figure in this; the great increase is in the amount we have to pay more than we did last year.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, March 14, 1898.

SIR: In compliance with your verbal request of Saturday last, and in connection with the deficiency estimates for Indian affairs (page 14, Supplemental Deficiency Estimates, 1898), you are advised that the cost of advertising for the current fiscal year to the present date is \$8,477.71. The amount paid for the same purpose for the whole of the last fiscal year was \$4,500.

Very respectfully,

W. A. JONES,
Commissioner.

Hon. J. G. CANNON,
Chairman Committee on Appropriations,
House of Representatives, City.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, March 14, 1898.

SIR: In accordance with your request of this date, I transmit herewith the original communication from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, dated January 22, 1898, a copy of which was, on January 28 last, sent to the chairman of the Committee on Indian Affairs, House of Representatives, which was signed for by H. E. Devendorf, clerk of Committee on Indian Affairs.

Please return this letter to the files of the Department.

Very respectfully,

THOS. RYAN,
First Assistant Secretary.

Hon. J. G. CANNON,
House of Representatives.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, January 22, 1898.

SIR: My attention has been directed in several ways, notably by reports made by Inspector McConnell, to the present method of transporting Indian goods and supplies from points where purchased to the several Indian agencies and schools, and on October 26 last I had the honor to make a preliminary report to the Department on the subject, limited to the information then in the possession of this Bureau.

Since then I have caused a thorough investigation of the subject to be made, and am now able to present facts and figures for the information of the Department.

It has been held that under the present system of advertising for bids for the transportation of the supplies annually purchased for the Indian service that the Government pays to the contractors, who act as middlemen between the Department and the railroads, a much larger amount than would be paid were the transaction had immediately with the railroads. In proof of this Inspector McConnell has submitted certain expense bills for supplies shipped by rail and steamer to the Yakima Agency, Wash., from San Francisco during the present year, which show, when compared with the flat rate paid the contractor, a large profit accruing to him on the amount invested in the transaction.

As this subject was a matter of investigation by this Bureau in 1894, with the result that the present system was found by actual figures to be cheaper, safer, and more simple than by direct dealing with the railroads, it was a matter surrounded by some doubt whether the conclusions of the inspector were accurate or not, although the sharp advance of rates made by the bidders last spring over the previous year's rates had been noted and commented on, and certain other features of the bids which will be discussed later on were noticed.

In placing the matter before the Department at this time it will be well to draw attention to the present method of transportation and to show its advantages and disadvantages.

Since the passage of the act of March 3, 1877 (19 Stats., 291), which provides "that hereafter contracts (for transportation) involving an expenditure of more than \$2,000 shall be advertised and let to the lowest responsible bidder," * * * all transportation of Indian supplies has been performed under contracts made with individuals in accordance with the law, none of the railroads having directly entered into competition for the business. These contracts bind the individual to transport such Indian supplies as may be turned over to him during the fiscal year for transportation to the points designated in his contract, at the rates named therein. These rates are for the hundred pounds for any and all classes of goods, whether they be first, second, third, fourth, fifth, or any class known to railroad classification. Thus a contractor may receive a large quantity of fence wire and dry goods for shipment to some western point, for which service he will receive payment at the same rate for both articles, while in his settlement with the railroad lines over which the goods

have been transported he will be called upon to pay first-class (high) rates on the dry goods and fourth-class (low) rates on the fence wire.

The contract binds the contractor to transport the goods turned over to him to their respective destinations without delay and within the number of days specified therein, and provides that for any delay over and above the time so specified the contractor shall be charged at a rate not exceeding \$2 per day for each 1,000 pounds of supplies so delayed. The contract provides further that the contractor shall be responsible for the supplies turned over to him, and payment for the service so rendered shall not be made until he shall have delivered them at their respective destinations and shall have presented at this office a bill of lading showing the receipt by the agent of this Department to whom the goods were consigned and that they were received in good order and condition.

The contractor is obliged, in addition, to provide, without additional charge, all warehouse and storage facilities for the goods while en route to their destinations and also for a period not exceeding sixty days at the railroad points nearest to the several agencies and schools.

As a guarantee for the faithful performance of the service, contractors give bonds from amounts ranging from \$10,000 to \$75,000 according to the volume of business or value of the goods to be transported under their contracts. To give the bidders as much information as possible in regard to the character of the prospective shipments, a list is prepared each year and forwarded to them prior to the opening of bids showing the quantities of the bulky and heavy shipments that will be made.

It will thus be seen that under the present system of transportation this Bureau operates under one that is simple in its methods, one that fully protects the Government from loss of any kind whatsoever, while the goods are in the hands of the transporter, makes the transporter responsible for all charges on the goods at the railroad termini until they can be removed to the agency, and again renders the settlement and payment for the service a simple and easy matter.

It is plain, however, on the other hand, that it places the Government at the mercy of the bidders, who have consisted for years of the same men, with an occasional recruit, who in most cases has dropped out after one or two years' experience. Competition among these men within the past few years has been so keen, however, that it has been asserted that under last year's prices, particularly, most of the contractors lost money.

As before stated, an investigation was made by this Bureau in 1894 on these same lines; class rates were obtained from the railroads, the goods shipped to eight principal points in the West were classified, and comparisons made of the relative cost of their shipment under transportation contracts, at a flat rate or by dealing with the railroads direct and paying to them class rates, with the result that it showed that on an expenditure of \$27,259.73 paid for shipping 1,840,931 pounds of supplies during that year a saving of \$5,750.79 was made by shipping under the contract system, or of 17.4 per centum on the expenditure.

Section 22 of the interstate commerce act approved February 4, 1887 (24 Stats., 380), makes exception to Government supplies and exempts them from the restrictions of the act. In this may probably be found the explanation of the low contract rates offered at that time, the contractors being able to obtain lower rates from the railroads than those quoted upon the application of this bureau and lower than the published tariff rates for the reason that the goods to be transported were classed as Government goods.

Upon opening bids for the transportation of supplies for the current fiscal year, the sharp advance over last year's rates was noted and the question was discussed whether the somewhat unusual result of the awards by which one man almost invariably was found to be the lowest bidder from all shipping points to a point for delivery, was not the result of a combination of bidders by which they raised prices and apportioned among themselves, so far as practicable, the transportation business of this bureau.

This is apparently the case, as an investigation shows no material advance in freight rates to the points in the West, except on certain commodities, while there was a general advance in the rates offered by transporters.

As before stated, I have caused an investigation of this matter to be made which will serve to show the true condition of things. At the expense of considerable time and trouble, the goods shipped to eleven different points in the West, representing all parts of country, the middle and extreme Northwest and Southwest, and also representing all grades of shipments made in the service (to the largest agencies and to the largest training schools), have been classified according to the Eastern and Western classification as was necessary, and the number of pounds under each class to each of these points has been ascertained. Class rates have been obtained from the railroads which handled this business, and the following tables have been prepared that show by a glance the relative payments that were made under contract at last year's rates, at this year's rates, and what would have been paid by direct dealing with the railroads and paying their tariff rates.

TO FORT PECK AGENCY MONT. (POPLAR.)

From—	Double first class.		First class.		Second class.		Third class.		Fourth class.		Fifth class.		Sixth class.		Contract, 1896-97.		Contract, 1897-98.		Railroad tariff rates.
	Per cwt.	Pounds	Per cwt.	Pounds	Per cwt.	Pounds	Per cwt.	Pounds	Per cwt.	Pounds	Per cwt.	Pounds	Per cwt.	Pounds	Per cwt.	Total.	Per cwt.	Total.	
New York.....			\$2.72	142,376	\$2.27	688	\$1.84	14,476	\$1.48	18,065			\$1.12	40,400	\$1.49	\$3,218.47	\$2.18	\$4,708.91	\$4,874.44
Chicago.....			2.17	52,207	1.78	79,403	1.48	25,583	1.20	37,205			1.33	2,485.49	1.33	2,485.49	1.84	3,576.92	3,369.35
St. Louis.....			2.17	245	1.78	83	1.48	89	.95	10,000	\$0.74	25,000			1.55	6.46	1.90	7.92	9.11
Kansas City.....	\$4.34	23	1.57	961								25,000			1.45	522.88	1.92	692.37	296.04
St. Paul.....			1.57	18,980	1.28	3,100					.74	57,138			1.05	831.79	1.58	1,281.64	760.49
Sioux City.....							1.31	10,761	1.15	6,332					1.28	218.40	1.86	315.66	212.13
Total.....																7,383.49		10,553.42	9,521.56

TO STANDING ROCK AGENCY (MANDAN, N. DAK.).

New York	.....	\$2.58	116,716	\$2.20	507	\$1.77	23,507	\$1.55	199,201	.....	\$0.89	\$1.848	\$1.05	\$4,428.08	\$1.46	\$6,157.97	\$6,856.16
Chicago	\$3.66	1,218	1.83	65,686	1.55	86,044	1.27	25,433	1.00	113,257	.....	.89	2,584.74	1.09	3,165.78	4,013.59	
St. Louis	3.66	66	1.83	371	1.55	93	1.27	658	.....	.....	.....	1.10	13.07	1.22	14.43	19.00	
St. Paul	.....	.....	.....	.....	1.25	500	.87	3,285	75	15,743	\$0.51	138,086	.58	914.16	.90	1,418.52	857.14
Kansas City	.....	.....	1.85	1,919	.....	.....	.....	.....	1.02	2,020	.....	.....	.86	33.87	1.29	50.81	56.10
Sioux City	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1.02	9,060	.....	.....	.97	87.88	1.21	109.62	92.41
Omaha	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1.02	2,010	.....	.....	.88	17.69	1.29	25.93	20.50
Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8,080.09	.....	10,942.92	11,914.90

TO CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHOE AGENCY (DARLINGTON, OKLA.).

New York.....	\$2.25	59,707	\$1.94	747	\$1.57	8,827	\$1.24	14,029						\$1.19	\$2,494.04	\$1.62	\$3,395.11	\$3,236.19
Chicago.....	1.50	66,352	1.24	55,471	1.07	25,620	.89	90,766						.94	2,239.07	1.26	3,001.31	2,792.72
St. Louis.....	1.04	154					.85	35						.92	1.74	1.40	2.64	1.97
Kansas City.....	.70	9,344	.64	15,801	.62	10,593	{ .51 57	{ 69,013 6,060	.46	289,173				.60	2,270.90	1.02	3,875.84	1,856.91
Omaha.....							.64	1,005						.65	6.53	1.15	11.55	6.93
St. Paul.....					1.10	3,913								.96	37.56	1.39	54.39	43.04
Sioux City.....						.77	4,983							.78	38.87	1.29	64.28	38.37
Total.....														7,097.71			10,405.12	7,976.07

TO HASKELL INSTITUTE, LAWRENCE, KANS.

New York.....	\$1.77	18,016	\$1.49	641	\$1.10	78	\$0.80	56,607	.....	\$0.78	\$557.67	\$1.15	\$986.43	\$782.15
Chicago.....	1.02	10,440	.84	14,320	.60	23,626	.45	27,701	.....	.49	372.83	.65	494.56	493.20
St. Louis.....	.83	792	.....	.....	.50	2,539	.40	171	.....	.53	18.56	.63	22.06	19.87
Kansas City.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.13	9,558	.....	.18	17.20	.26	24.85	12.43
Total.....	986.26	1,407.90	1,307.65

TO PINE RIDGE AGENCY (RUSHVILLE, NEBR.).

New York.....	\$2.54	106,289
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TO UINTAH AND OURAY AGENCY (PRICE), UTAH.

New York.....	\$3.85	38,980	\$3.30	526	\$2.65	7,706	\$2.10	42,225	\$2.12	\$1,896.06	\$2.87	\$2,566.84	\$2,609.02
Chicago.....	3.10	31,248	2.65	34,461	2.15	18,439	1.75	68,537	.....	1.87	2,855.21	2.52	3,847.66	3,477.74
St. Louis.....	.....	30	.....	84	.....	.....	.....	614	.....	1.92	14.17	2.87	21.18	16.98
Kansas City.....	.....	.....	2.00	11,058	1.90	24,301	1.43	17,459	\$1.00	120,396	.....	1.33	3,672.13	2,087.90
Omaha.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1.43	804	.....	.....	12.70	2.42	19.46	11.50
Sioux City.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1.43	1,510	.....	.....	23.07	2.42	36.54	21.59
Total.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7,104.96	.....	10,163.81	8,224.73

TO PHENIX SCHOOL, ARIZONA.

New York.....	\$6.71	164	\$4.47	19,027	\$3.90	5,130	\$3.40	613	\$2.65	29,569	.....	\$3.24	\$1,790.58	\$4.47	\$2,428.95	\$1,896.00
Chicago.....	5.58	2,732	3.72	18,710	3.25	13,626	2.90	7,928	2.30	26,646	.....	3.11	2,049.80	4.27	2,814.36	2,121.70
Kansas City.....	7.44	237	3.52	1,404	.....	.....	2.70	2,406	2.20	22,228	.....	2.74	713.44	4.00	1,041.53	603.40
St. Louis.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3.06	46	2.80	7	2.25	28,478	.....	3.08	16.42	4.40	23.45	12.63
Omaha.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.20	1,003	.....	2.85	28.58	4.20	42.13	22.07
Sioux City.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.20	7,550	.....	2.85	215.17	4.35	328.42	166.10
Total.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,783.99	.....	6,878.98	.....	4,791.90	.....

TO PUYALLUP SCHOOL (RESERVATION), WASHINGTON.

From—	Double first class.		First class.		Second class.		Third class.		Fourth class.		Fifth class.		Sixth class.		Contract, 1897-97.		Contract, 1897-96.		Railroad tariff rates.
	Per cwt.	Pounds	Per cwt.	Pounds	Per cwt.	Pounds	Per cwt.	Pounds	Per cwt.	Pounds	Per cwt.	Pounds	Per cwt.	Pounds	Per cwt.	Total.	Per cwt.	Total.	
New York.....			\$3.15	10,745	\$2.89	322			\$2.05	336			\$2.08	\$305.00	\$4.10	\$467.52		\$353.37	
Chicago.....			2.40	2,155	2.15	773			1.70	179			2.70	83.94	3.75	116.58		71.38	
San Francisco.....	\$1.56	445	.78	12,053	.65	9,571	\$0.52	14,936	.45	37,283			.57	424.32	1.50	1,116.64		413.29	
Total.....														813.86		1,700.74		838.04	

TO YAKIMA AGENCY (TOPPENNISH), WASH.

New York.....	\$4.35	8,489													\$2.65	\$224.95	\$4.45	\$377.76	\$380.27
Chicago.....	3.60	2,408	\$3.10	889	\$2.60	1,099	\$2.10	5,728							2.40	242.98	4.10	415.08	263.11
San Francisco.....	1.45	8,773	1.25	9,198	.78	10,736	.824	29,874							1.42	861.85	1.96	1,142.38	568.96
St. Louis.....					2.20	76									2.40	1.62	4.16	3.17	1.97
Total.....																1,301.00		1,938.34	1,227.91

TO WARM SPRINGS AGENCY (THE DALLES), OREGON.

New York.....	\$4.35	331													\$2.85	\$90.43	\$3.75	\$12.41	\$14.39
Chicago.....	3.60	1,009	\$3.10	338	\$2.60	3,595	\$2.10	3,289							2.60	214.01	3.40	279.85	206.34
San Francisco.....	.65	8,985	.524	5,387	.40	956	.824	17,538							.80	264.93	1.40	403.62	148.16
St. Louis.....					2.20	439									2.99	14.62	3.42	10.72	10.76
Total.....																502.99		772.00	382.05

TO NEVADA AGENCY (WADSWORTH), NEVADA.

New York.....	\$4.65	8,913	\$4.05	315	\$3.90	1,213	\$2.45	13,331							\$3.02	\$717.91	\$4.12	\$979.40	\$702.64
Chicago.....	3.60	14,049	3.40	5,939	2.70	3,358	2.10	8,420							2.77	904.85	3.77	1,231.51	1,052.43
St. Louis.....	3.70	478													2.00	14.34	4.12	19.50	17.68
Kansas City.....	3.50	236					2.00	7,351							2.50	189.75	3.45	261.95	158.38
Omaha.....	3.50	4,104	3.00	648	2.50	1,702	2.00	2,496							2.30	206.54	3.45	308.81	257.06
Total.....																2,033.39		2,802.16	2,275.18

RECAPITULATION.

Agencies.	Contract 1894-97.	Contract 1897-98.	Railroad tariff rates.
Fort Peck Agency, Poplar, Mont.	\$7,383.49	\$10,553.42	\$9,521.56
Standing Rock Agency, Mandan, N. Dak.	8,080.09	10,942.95	11,914.90
Cheyenne and Arapahoe Agency, Darlington, Okla.	7,097.71	10,405.12	7,970.07
Haskell Institute, Lawrence, Kans.	996.26	1,407.90	1,307.65
Pine Ridge Agency, Rushville, Nebr.	8,703.41	11,227.89	10,538.44
Uintah and Ouray Agency, Price, Utah.	7,104.96	10,163.81	8,224.73
Puyallup School, Reservation, Wash.	813.86	1,700.74	838.04
Yakima Agency, Toppenish, Wash.	1,301.60	1,938.34	1,227.94
Warm Springs Agency, The Dalles, Oreg.	502.99	772.00	982.65
Phoenix School, Phoenix, Ariz.	4,783.99	6,678.83	4,791.90
Nevada Agency, Wadsworth, Nev.	2,083.39	2,802.16	2,275.18
Total	48,801.75	66,593.73	58,999.03

It is evident by an examination of these figures that the contractors have charged much higher rates than the published tariff rates of the railroads—about 13.9 per cent—and still a higher rate, proportionately, over last year's contract rates—about 33½ per cent. Under last year's low contract rates, the quantity of goods shipped being annually increased by the establishment of new schools, it was necessary to ask Congress for a deficiency appropriation of \$7,213.03 to pay for transportation on supplies in addition to the annual appropriation of \$275,000; and, assuming that an equal quantity will be shipped during the current year, a deficiency appropriation of at least \$100,000 will be necessary to pay transportation charges, owing to the increased rates this year.

To make this comparison a fair one it is only justice to give a few details of the methods used in the classification of the goods shipped to the points named in the foregoing tables. The bills of lading which describe the manner in which all these goods were packed and shipped and also their weights, and which are in reality copies of the railroad shipping receipt on which the railroad companies base their classification of the goods, were carefully examined and the goods classified according to the Eastern classification on the New York shipments and according to Western classification on Chicago and all other shipments.

In doing this, where there were shipments of goods in quantity sufficient to make carloads, the carload classification was made, and in cases where there was doubt of a classification, it was rated at the lower (or cheaper) rate, the general idea governing the work being to place this Bureau in the position of the shipper who is dealing directly with the railroads and who takes advantage of every opportunity to lower the cost of shipment by claiming carload rates where possible. Thus the classification of these goods has, if anything, been placed at the lowest rates, and from the information in this Bureau relative to the methods of shipments used by contractors, the classification may have been placed too low in a number of cases. The railroads in naming most commodity rates make heavy deductions for shipments at "owner's risk," and these rates have been invariably taken in classifying these goods where such rates have been quoted.

It would seem, however, that unless there be some arrangements between the contractors and the railroads not known to this Bureau relative to the assumption of risk under this rating, or under some decision of the courts relative to the liability of a common carrier for the loss of goods rated under this class, the contractors do not usually ship under the "owner's risk" rate. Cases have come to the knowledge of this Bureau of loss or damage of goods in transit and the reported recovery from the railroad. Such is understood to be the case referred to in office letter of October 26, 1897, in the loss of 23,000 pounds of sugar last summer while en route to Rushville, Nebr., for the Pine Ridge Agency, although there is no direct proof of this.

These details are here cited so that the proper weight may be given to the classification of the goods in this Bureau.

This work is not pretended to be exact, but it represents what, in the best judgment of this Bureau, was probably paid to the railroads for the transportation of the goods.

The question now arises, if legislation be had by which this Bureau is authorized to deal directly with the railroads and not depend solely upon the competition or combination of contractors, what effect it would have upon the clerical force now at the disposal of this Bureau, here and in the field.

As was pointed out in the report on this subject made in April, 1894, the change from the present system would, without doubt, result in the necessity for increased clerical force in this Bureau, and that, too, of an intelligent character, to properly check the classifications made by the railroads and the rates charged.

Just what additional force would be required to effect prompt settlement with the railroads is difficult to state.

Under the present contract system the thousands of bills of lading necessary to cover the annual shipments of Indian supplies are handled and promptly settled by two clerks. If shipments were made by the railroads direct, twice that number would certainly be required to handle the business, as there would undoubtedly be many claims against the roads for reclassification, and many other details to be encountered that would make the process of settlement much more complicated and much slower than under the present system.

There are are other points to be considered besides the cost of increased clerical labor if a change in the system were made, that have hereinbefore been mentioned, and these are, briefly, the loss to the Government of the protection against loss in shipment; the absolute responsibility of contractors for the value of the goods in their hands, and the fact that from the time of delivery of the goods in the warehouses they are in the charge of men bonded to the Government for their safe-keeping.

The items of demurrage and storage charges that would necessarily be incurred by direct dealings with the railroads are important ones to consider in this connection.

A large number of agencies are located some distance from railroad stations, and

with the facilities at the command of the agents—usually Indian freighters—it would be often impracticable, if not impossible, for them to remove all goods promptly, and, as is the custom of the railroads, storage and demurrage charges would be made. This expense is now borne by the transporter, who is obliged, by the terms of his contract, to hold them at the termini, free of charge, for sixty days if so required.

The act of March 3, 1877, providing for the advertisement for bids for transportation of Indian supplies, directed what was probably the best method to pursue at that time, all things being considered, as most of the agencies at that time were remote from the railroads and long wagon hauls were necessary.

In the performance of this service responsible parties were not available at the railroad termini, as a rule, and probably the very nature of the service led up to the legislation in question. In the past ten years the conditions have been changed, as railroads have been built to such an extent that there are few agencies or schools far removed from the railroads, and their number is constantly being diminished.

Comparison of the rates paid in the past five years shows that they have not been exorbitant, and, possibly, until the present year, have they been a little more than the tariff rates, owing to competition.

The figures of the present year's rates show, however, a probable combination of bidders, a division of the business, and a consequent advance in rates.

Assuming that the advance of this year's contract rates over those of last year will average $33\frac{1}{4}$ per cent, there will be paid to contractors this year an excess of \$91,666, based on the expenditure of \$275,000, the amount of the appropriation for this purpose. But it is estimated that the same quantity of supplies (if not more) will be shipped during the current year as was shipped last year, and that a deficiency appropriation of at least \$100,000 will be required to settle all transportation accounts for this year—the regular appropriation of \$275,000 and a deficiency of \$7,213.03 having been disbursed last year—to meet the estimated increase of $33\frac{1}{4}$ per cent in the contract rates for this year. It is therefore evident that the Government will pay this year an excess to contractors over last year's payments of \$125,000.

If the estimated profit of contractors for shipments to the eleven points named in the tables given herein be taken as a proper basis for application to the whole service, then the profit accruing to contractors during the current year will approximate \$52,125 on a total expenditure of \$375,000. This is a large amount to pay for a service, even if it possess the advantages herein stated, and although direct dealings with the railroads would without doubt bring additional expense for clerical work, storage, and demurrage charges, etc., it would seem to be for the best interests of the Government that some legislation be recommended to Congress whereby discretionary power, at least, be given to the Department to reject bids for transportation if found to be excessive, and to ship direct, if, indeed, it would not be wise legislation to abolish the contract system altogether.

To correct this condition, I recommend that the form of amendment inclosed herewith be transmitted to both Houses of Congress, with recommendation that it be incorporated in the Indian appropriation bill now before that body.

Very respectfully,

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

W. A. JONES, *Commissioner*.

Form of a proposed amendment to the Indian appropriation bill for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1899.

That from and after the passage of this Act, Indian goods and supplies shall be transported under contract, as provided by the Act of March third eighteen hundred and seventy-seven, or in open market by common carriers, as the Secretary of the Interior in his discretion shall determine.

POSTAL SERVICE.

STATEMENT OF MR. W. S. SHALLENBERGER, SECOND ASSISTANT POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

The CHAIRMAN. You have the item of mail transportation under you?

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. The appropriation for 1898 seems to have been \$29,000,000, whereas your estimate was \$30,200,000, and your estimate for a deficiency is \$1,460,000. This matter is fully explained in your estimate on page 23?

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. This matter is fully explained on page 23 of our estimate, and by reference to it I think you will find that the deficiency is reported on a basis of careful calculation.

Mr. SAYERS. How is it that this item of expenditure has increased so rapidly since 1894? In 1894 you expended \$25,769,000, and now you want to expend \$30,450,000. What is the cause of this increase in four years?

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. That is an increase of about 16 per cent.

Mr. SAYERS. What is the cause of it?

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. The natural increase of the postal service in the country, which amounts to from 7 to 10 per cent a year; the increased number of offices to be supplied; the increase in the amount of transportation to supply the country at large, and the growth of the country, in other words, is responsible for the growth of the postal service.

Mr. SAYERS. I understand that as a general proposition, but I do not understand that proposition to apply with pertinency to this special item.

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. For what reason?

Mr. SAYERS. There have been no new lines of railroads comparatively constructed in this country in the last three or four years. We have been at a standstill, and the same offices upon the roads existed probably four years ago. I can understand how the increase in the postal service generally arises, but I can not understand why the increase in this particular is so marked in so short a time.

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. I do not have, Mr. Chairman, the figures before me showing the weight of mails handled in each year from 1894 to 1898, but I think if you will compare the weight of mails handled, and the number of mails handled, and pieces of mail handled, you will find, as I stated, the annual increase in the postal service is an average of from 7 to 10 per cent. In those four years the average has only been about 4 per cent.

Mr. SAYERS. I would like to ask you this question. Is it, or is it not, your judgment that the Government is paying too much for the transportation of mails on railroads? I have heard it charged that the expenditure in this matter is excessively large. I do not know whether it is so or not, and therefore I want to get your judgment.

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. I have seen these charges made. I have no means at present to determine whether the charges for the transportation of mails are in excess of what is reasonable, for the reason that we have no data which leads me to suspect they are. The character of services we require of railroads differs very widely from the character of services required of express companies and traffic companies generally. It is very difficult indeed to make an approximate estimate of reasonable rates. We throw into our transportation charge so many items which are not strictly for transportation, whereas in the express rates there is nothing included but the handling of the transportation. Here we have an apartment-car service, with a space of 40 feet in a car, for which we pay nothing. We have the transportation of postal clerks continuously free. We have the railroad burdened with the expense of maintaining a messenger service at every post-office within a quarter of a mile of its station. We have included in this item of transportation the expense incident to all our assistant superintendents and superintendents who are paid a per diem for their traveling expenses. Those are a few of the items which make this service peculiarly standing alone. Again, the express service is different in this, that it is not expedited in advance of first-class traffic, whereas our service is of the very highest grade. We have our fines and deductions wherever it is proven that a postal car is sidetracked for the highest class of passenger traffic. It takes precedence over every other class of traffic and has a fine for delays or failures to connect.

Mr. SAYERS. Do you remember about what is the amount of fines imposed and actually enforced upon railroads during the past year?

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. The reports have them here. I can give them in a little while. If I am permitted to call attention to this estimate which we are now presenting to the committee, it contains just this suggestion, "less fines and deductions estimated," showing we take into account fines and deductions when we submit this deficiency estimate. Now, the actual deductions are in every report which has been made by the second assistant. In addition to that I might say there is a large amount of very valuable space in railway depots which we have free of all rental for our transfer clerks. That is all free, so it is very difficult, indeed, when we attempt to estimate what properly belongs to purely transportation charges and what that includes.

Mr. SAYERS. My object was simply to elicit information. I know nothing about it myself, but it has been stated rather loosely that excessive allowances have been made to mail transportation—not by this Administration particularly, but by all Administrations—and that the expenses of mail transportations are increasing too rapidly. I do not know this to be true, and have really no facts to predicate an opinion upon.

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. This is in the line of what has been transpiring here in my hearing. We have not felt it wise to advertise bids in railroad transportations,

because it is so easy to have collusion between great railway lines. We prefer Congress to fix absolutely the rate.

Mr. SAYERS. Has not your Department the power of fixing rates?

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. We have only the indirect power which is given in the discretion of the postmaster, and which discretion he has invariably declined to exercise, because it would open the door at once to suspicion of favoritism to a corporation just the moment he should say, "I will give such a road so much, and such a road so much."

Mr. NORTHWAY. How can you avoid that?

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. We prefer the suggestion that Congress in its wisdom shall call upon us for a most careful report we shall make from time to time, and compare these rates which are now charged by railroad companies for transportation and those paid for the general transportation, and allow the maximum.

Mr. NORTHWAY. And allow Congress to decide?

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. Allowing Congress to decide the maximum. Then we place the service upon the rate, with the understanding we have no control whatever.

Mr. NORTHWAY. Except that you pay the maximum?

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. We just do as when special facility is given, for the reason our present rates are before Congress and they pass upon those rates and decide whether they are excessive or not, and if they do not state they are excessive we presume they regard them as proper and reasonable and we have the service executed under those rates.

Mr. SAYERS. I understand you to say that, so far as you have been able to ascertain, the rates allowed to railroads for transporting the mails are not excessive?

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. So far as my opinion goes they are not excessive. We are carrying our investigation on and we propose to bring the results before the committee, if they desire to have them, giving facts and figures down to the latest date, showing the actual cost of our service with the cost of high class passenger traffic throughout the country in the matter of car service, and since attention has been called to it by Congress and in the papers, I have had some investigation in progress under the general superintendent on all that line, and we are going to show the cost on two of the leading lines of railroads carrying post-office cars between Chicago and New York, to ascertain what, if possible, the mileage charge would be there in case Congress should see proper to extend the department and own its own cars—

Mr. SAYERS. There is no different rate throughout the country; one road gets as much as another in proportion to the amount of mail carried?

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. It is impartial, absolutely, and the only question where a road does not get the maximum is a new road that is not fully developed.

Mr. NORTHWAY. We are paying rent each year for cars almost as much as the cost of the entire car.

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. But if we own these cars and have shops for maintaining and repairing cars, and pay for the heating and lighting of the cars, and pay for the mileage rental to the road; as we have no monopoly of the road, and as they have a monopoly, when we put our cars on their tracks they charge mileage.

Mr. NORTHWAY. It seems to me it ought to be so we can get the rental of a car each year a little less than the cost of building a car.

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. It would seem so, but when you come to estimate it I think our figures will show we are paying less than 7 cents per mile on this great line from New York to Chicago, whereas they estimate 10 cents per mile would be a fair charge.

Mr. NORTHWAY. In carrying express matter it is how much?

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. Express matter is just simply storage goods, and they have no responsibility connected with it.

Mr. NORTHWAY. But they carry it on the same trains as the mails.

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. But their officials have nothing to do with the handling of it. Our officials are on the train, and the mail anyway occupies but a small part of the 40 feet in our postal cars. Our postal cars would not have any more than 10,000 maximum weight, whereas you can carry 40,000 or 60,000 pounds. We have room there for our clerks.

Mr. SAYERS. In carrying express matter the roads do not charge according to the weight, do they?

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. Really I am not prepared to say what arrangement they have made with the express companies in that regard.

Mr. SAYERS. So you really are not prepared to speak as to the comparison between the charges to the express companies and the Government?

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. No; I am not.

The CHAIRMAN. I want to ask you—I have been examining page 23 of your estimate here. You make an estimate here of the amount for inland transportation by railroad routes, \$1,450,000, and then you proceed to explain how you make it up. I want to

know how much of that money, as nearly as you can tell, will be paid out, if appropriated, during this fiscal year.

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. So nearly as we can estimate it will be all paid, actually paid or actually stated, so that the Auditor will include it in the pay of this year.

The CHAIRMAN. What I want to know is, whether there is a portion of it that would go over, say, for six or eight months, to pay on those roads where the weighings are taking place, now ready, so to speak, that you will adjust subsequently?

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. We are not basing any of this estimate on the weighings that are to occur this spring. They will not in any way affect this expenditure.

The CHAIRMAN. If this appropriation is made, do I understand this \$1,450,000 will absolutely be paid out between this and the 1st of July?

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. Absolutely paid out, or incurred so this appropriation alone will be available for it.

The CHAIRMAN. I know; but I want to get the amount that will be absolutely paid out.

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. Yes; I can not say it will be absolutely paid out, because the accounts are not approved by the Auditor for three months, usually, after the expiration of the fiscal year.

The CHAIRMAN. You can say it will be earned by the close of the 30th of June?

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. Yes, sir; by the close of the fiscal year.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, you state here that in the Eastern States with your weighing that in that contract section there was a decrease in this pay of \$538,302. Now, you go on further and add cost of railroad transportation of the mail on the Union Pacific Railroad Company, \$796,567. Is that for the remainder of this fiscal year, or for the whole year?

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. That is from the time the decision became operative releasing that road and making it impossible henceforth for us to have this stand simply as a charge against the company. We took it up.

The CHAIRMAN. It remained a charge up to the sale?

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. Up to the sale.

The CHAIRMAN. I do not recollect when that was.

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. So that we have to take up and include it in our railway transportation payment.

The CHAIRMAN. I am only surprised at the amount. Looking at it, it seems to me, probably, it might have been included in the whole year.

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. No; if it was all included for the whole year I think it would be in the neighborhood of \$1,400,000.

The CHAIRMAN. But I am speaking of the Union Pacific. This did not apply to the nonbond-aided roads?

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. No. You see in the note following, that there the Kansas Pacific, should that be confirmed, releases \$48,000 for railroad transportation and \$9,850 for postal cars. That has not been determined yet, and we did not include it.

The CHAIRMAN. This covers the road from Omaha to Ogden—that is all?

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. That is all.

The CHAIRMAN. And does not cover the Oregon Short Line, or any feeders of that road?

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. Not as I understand it. That I could not now be able to state.

The CHAIRMAN. They were not included in the sale, I understand. In other words, they stood upon a different basis, as I understand it. I wish you would examine into that and see if your people have not made a mistake there. It seems to me for transportation of mails from Omaha to Ogden, over the Union Pacific railroads, \$796,000 is a pretty large sum for a fraction of the year, and that is the reason I ask the question.

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. I will send you a detailed statement in reference to that. (See letter, page 45).

The CHAIRMAN. I only state that to have you verify it and see if it is accurate. I think possibly the man who made that got in the full year.

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. I feel reasonably safe in stating it is reasonably correct, because he is a very careful man who made the statement, and he is very accurate in his figures.

The CHAIRMAN. The next item is steamboat routes, \$34,000; for 1897, \$2,515.32. For railway post-office car service for 1898, \$159,502. That results from the Union Pacific Railroad?

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. It merely results from that.

The CHAIRMAN. The appropriation was full for that service?

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. We received this appropriation; in other words, whether we consider it full or not.

The CHAIRMAN. For regulation screen and other wagon service, \$25,000. You have expended or used the whole of that appropriation?

Mr. SHALLENBERGER. Yes.

POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
SECOND ASSISTANT POSTMASTER-GENERAL,
Washington, March 12, 1898.

Hon. JOSEPH G. CANNON,
*Chairman Appropriations Committee,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

SIR: When I was before the committee to-day, relative to the deficiencies for the current year in items of appropriation relating to mail transportation, you asked for some further information as to the amount released to the Union Pacific Railway Company by order of the Secretary of the Treasury, as appears on page 23 of House Doc. No. 319, this session.

In reply I have to say that the amount named therein, \$796,567, is the total annual pay on the aided portion of mail route No. 157001 between Union Pacific Transfer, Iowa, and Ogden, Utah, the distance of the aided portion being 1,029.45 miles. The order of the Secretary of the Treasury had the effect of making it necessary to release the pay covering the entire current fiscal year the amount as stated above.

Very respectfully,

W. S. SHALLENBERGER,
Second Assistant Postmaster-General.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

HUGH T. TAGGART.

The CHAIRMAN. We want to know about the claim of Hugh T. Taggart, for services rendered as special assistant to the United States district attorney for the District of Columbia.

Mr. J. K. RICHARDS. I would like to make a short statement about that.

The CHAIRMAN. It seems these services were rendered, from this note, during the fiscal years 1890, 1891, 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896, and 1897, and the item submitted is \$25,500. First, let me ask you, it was special employment, was it, for this special case?

Mr. RICHARDS. Well, it was special employment, as I understand it, in the Potomac Flats Case, and in certain other matters which at that time were pending before the Department; that is, prior to 1890.

The CHAIRMAN. This does not refer to those matters?

Mr. RICHARDS. I was just explaining the way that bill happened to be made out. Mr. Taggart was employed, as I understand, in the Potomac flats case and in two or three other matters prior to 1890. Now, under that employment he rendered bills to the Department of Justice. That was at the time when Mr. Miller was Attorney-General, and as the result of presenting those bills there was a set arrangement made between the Department of Justice and Mr. Taggart by which he was to go on and do work on those matters—the Potomac flats case and other matters which might be referred to him by the Department—for \$6,000 a year. Now, subsequent to that time one of the assistant attorneys in the District here died, and this Mr. Taggart was taken in as assistant and paid \$3,000 a year, with the understanding that that should be credited upon the \$6,000 a year that he was to have for his services in those special cases, so you will see at the conclusion of it he has charged \$6,000 a year during that time under the original arrangement with Attorney-General Miller, and then has credited the amount he received, and that leaves the \$25,500.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there any evidence of that contract?

Mr. RICHARDS. Oh, certainly, in the Department of Justice, and then this matter was approved by Mr. Harmon. Of course Mr. Taggart did not put in his bill according to the usual precedent of the Department of Justice until after the service had been performed.

Mr. NORTHWAY. And that was done at the suggestion of the Department itself?

Mr. RICHARDS. Yes, sir.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. You mean to say that while he was assistant attorney and officially connected with the Government in that capacity he received an additional salary?

Mr. RICHARDS. He was employed as I state.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. And then he became assistant attorney?

Mr. RICHARDS. And then, after that, there was an arrangement by which he was an assistant, and what he was paid as assistant, \$3,000 a year, and—

Mr. LIVINGSTON. It was a special employment?

Mr. RICHARDS. Yes. Mr. Cole knows about that; I do not know about the details of that. Of course that occurred before I was connected with the Department.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you got the document showing a statement of these accounts?

Mr. RICHARDS. I thought we had it here. I have here a report, No. 159.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that Hale's report?

Mr. RICHARDS. Yes.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. You drew this itemized statement?

Mr. COLE. No; there is no occasion for an itemized statement. The written contract does not appear, if there ever was one.

The CHAIRMAN. What page was that matter on?

Mr. RICHARDS. The statement of Mr. Harmon, Attorney-General, is on page 6.

The CHAIRMAN. Is Mr. Taggart still in the employment of the Government under a regular salary?

Mr. PERRY. He is one of the assistant attorneys.

Mr. RICHARDS. He is specially appointed in the Potomac Flats case, too.

The CHAIRMAN. What does this mean? I ask for information. What are these peculiar provisions I see in here about Mr. Coyle?

Mr. PERRY. You remember last year you fixed the appropriation so the assistants' salaries were specified, but that the district attorney could pay any salary he pleased.

Mr. COLE. The district attorney in the District of Columbia has his assistants, appointed by himself. They are not indeed assistant attorneys of the United States at all. The district attorney of the District of Columbia is appropriated annually a certain sum of money to pay for his office expenses and assistants whom he sees fit to employ. The committee is aware throughout the country the Attorney-General appoints assistant United States attorneys, but in the District of Columbia the Attorney-General does not so appoint, and there is no appointment by anybody. The district attorney is allowed a round sum of money, I think it is \$23,800, to pay all his office expenses and to employ his assistants, and he employs whoever he pleases, and they have no connection with the Department of Justice.

Mr. Coyle was in the district attorney's office as deputy district attorney, but not as an assistant attorney of the United States at all. He died, and Judge Hoge, who was then district attorney, made a contract with Mr. Taggart to perform certain duties that Mr. Coyle had been doing—his duty being to take charge of the grand jury. That is all one man can do in the District of Columbia, to prepare the indictments and attend to summoning witnesses before the grand jury. Mr. Coyle had drawn them for years. When he died Judge Hoge needed an experienced man for the business. Mr. Taggart formerly, for some years, had been engaged in that, and he engaged Mr. Taggart to do that. At that time Mr. Taggart was working for the Government under this special employment for the Attorney-General, at \$6,000. He agreed with Judge Hoge to do the grand jury business and to attend to all these other matters he was under contract with the Attorney-General, and he was to receive \$3,000 out of the fund appropriated to the district attorney for the District of Columbia and thereby relieve the General Government of \$3,000. That is the transaction.

The CHAIRMAN. Let me ask this question. When he was employed by Judge Hoge he became Judge Hoge's deputy?

Mr. COLE. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. At \$3,000 a year?

Mr. COLE. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. And was paid from the allowance made to Judge Hoge?

Mr. COLE. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, there was nothing in that employment, I take it, to prevent him from practicing his profession?

Mr. COLE. His duties under the contract with the Attorney-General would take all the time of one man. He really took his nights to do this grand jury duty. That is the fact about it.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, his employment at \$6,000, that did not involve a commission. That was the employment of an attorney to do specific work payable from the appropriation for special assistants?

Mr. COLE. Paid out of the appropriation that you annually put at the disposal of the Attorney-General, who employs special assistants. That is what that is to be paid out of, and if Judge Hoge had not subsequently made this arrangement with him the contract of the Attorney-General would have bound the General Government to pay \$6,000. This transaction of Judge Hoge relieves the General Government to that extent.

Mr. NORTHWAY. But he was bound by his contract with the General Government to perform the labors assigned to him?

Mr. COLE. Yes, sir; and he did all the work that he was required to do and took the entire charge of this Potomac Flats case, and I will refresh the recollection of the committee for a moment to say that that case was prosecuted under a special act of Congress passed in 1884 or 1885, and it involved all the Potomac Flats here—the water and the land bordering on the water—and, with the decree which Mr. Taggart succeeded in getting from the supreme court of the District of Columbia, it is worth from \$8,000,000 to \$10,000,000. Mr. Taggart did the entire work of that case from beginning to end. He worked from 1886, from the time the act was passed, until about a year ago, when it was heard in the supreme court of the District—about two years ago, I guess.

Mr. NORTHWAY. Is there any doubt about the fact the Attorney-General has the right to make a contract?

Mr. COLE. None at all.

Mr. NORTHWAY. His contract was under the law?

Mr. COLE. Yes, sir.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. If there is no doubt about the Attorney-General's prerogative in this case why does he come here for special legislation? Coming here shows there is a doubt.

Mr. COLE. The accounting officers of the Treasury Department had some doubt whether they could pay that without special authority from Congress. There has not been any question about the contract, and there has never been any question about the services rendered; never any question by any man who knows anything about it that the services are worth double this sum asked here, and the only question is a technical one of whether the accounting officers of the Treasury would be justified in paying it under the law as it stood.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Is not the appropriation in a lump sum to the Attorney-General for the employment of assistants?

Mr. PERRY. For special assistants; yes, sir.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Then the man could be employed out of the lump sum?

Mr. PERRY. A bill was prepared and sent to the Treasury, but we decided, in view of the fact he held the position in the District of Columbia, which is a unique one, we withdrew the account—

Mr. LIVINGSTON. That is the reason why it was not paid out of this?

Mr. PERRY. The Department had no doubt at all about the legality of the bill.

Mr. COLE. It is claimed by Mr. Taggart and the Department of Justice—and I have no doubt that is the law—that the statute under which the Treasury officials hesitated has no application. It was—if this had occurred in a State, and if Mr. Taggart had held the appointment of assistant attorney for the United States under the Attorney-General—he would have held two appointments under the Attorney-General.

Mr. NORTHWAY. They raised that question?

Mr. COLE. So it was decided in the Department it would be better to withdraw the account.

The CHAIRMAN. I will say the Attorney-General spoke to me about this matter a day or two ago, and I understood him to say Mr. Taggart's connection with this Potomac Flats case had ceased. He asked me why he had not been paid, and I said I did not recollect; that I supposed one reason was probably we wanted to get the size of the cherry; and he said the cherry was full grown; but I guess he still has employment here in this matter.

Mr. RICHARDS. I think he has. The case is not ended.

Mr. COLE. This bill covers services in the court below. It does not cover services in the Supreme Court.

Mr. SAYERS. Is there another charge to come afterwards?

Mr. COLE. If the committee will bear for a moment, I will add that a good deal of this work of Mr. Taggart was done while I was in the office. At the same time we had in our hands the condemnation on the Rock Creek Park. That was not a part of the district attorney's duty under the law, but Mr. Taggart was requested by the Attorney-General to do so and did examine all titles to that large tract of land, and in addition to his services in the Rock Creek Park case, and this compensation of \$6,000 covered all that work, and he had several other matters. The post-office site, which was condemned, he had charge of, and that was covered by this same compensation, and there were several other matters I need not mention. One word more. I desire to say that I was in the district attorney's office when all this matter occurred, and it was through my urgency Mr. Taggart was put in there, and I feel somewhat the obligation, as it was partly through my desire and request he should remain in the district attorney's office; and for that reason I felt it incumbent upon me to come here and explain to the committee the situation of affairs as well as I could.

The CHAIRMAN. I think that covers the ground.

CONTINGENT EXPENSES.

STATEMENT OF COL. CECIL CLAY, CHIEF CLERK, AND MR. HOWARD PERRY, CHIEF OF DIVISION OF ACCOUNTS.

The CHAIRMAN. Touching law books, you ask \$187.05. Is that a deficiency incurred?

Mr. CLAY. That represents a bill which is unpaid for books which we now have and are using in our library.

The CHAIRMAN. Whether you had the money to pay with you had to get the books; what is this payment to Mason Plummer?

Mr. CLAY. That is a matter that has been heretofore once or twice before Congress.

The CHAIRMAN. Why did we not put it in?

Mr. CLAY. It has been put in as far as we are concerned.

Mr. CHAIRMAN. What is it for?

Mr. CLAY. It is for services rendered; I have the papers here.

The CHAIRMAN. In other words, the time ran out and he ought to have been discharged and was discharged, but he and the Attorney-General fixed it so he could keep on.

Mr. CLAY. I look back and find in 1886 I indorsed the request of Mr. Plummer, and Mr. Boyd, Assistant Attorney-General, took this matter up and looked it over and indorsed on it and sent it back to me, "Let this go as an item to the general deficiency bill," and I turned it over to Mr. Perry.

The CHAIRMAN. The next item is expense of telegraphing for the year 1897. I suppose that is an ascertained amount?

Mr. CLAY. Yes, sir; it was in Document 256.

The CHAIRMAN. Miscellaneous expenditures.

Mr. CLAY. We estimate \$3,000. We have now right in sight bills amounting to \$2,697.50, and we have probably some unexpected items coming up between this and the 1st of July.

The CHAIRMAN. You had some extraordinary repairs, did you?

Mr. CLAY. Oh, yes; we have, and we were in hopes by adding on \$500 we would be able, to do the repairing before the 1st of July, but we will not be able to do it by the 30th of June, and we will have to leave our repairing pending until after the 1st of July.

The CHAIRMAN. And yet we gave you the full estimate; we appropriated the full estimate.

Mr. CLAY. Oh, yes; but we have a great deal to do. We have spent a great deal of money in repairing the building, and had to do it.

The CHAIRMAN. For official transportation, \$1,500?

Mr. CLAY. We have now nearly \$700 of bills to pay, and we will have two horses to sell which are utterly worthless, so we will have to buy two horses, and, of course, whatever we get for them will go into the Treasury; and we have to buy a new wagon, so we will have to have every cent of that.

The CHAIRMAN. For stationery?

Mr. CLAY. That simply represents the amount we have had to use. The department has grown so in the last few years that we are obliged to use it, and we can not get along without it.

The CHAIRMAN. Furniture and repairs?

Mr. CLAY. We have estimated for only \$600 for stationery, and our bills on hand now amount to \$670. For furniture and repairs we have estimated \$600. We have bills for \$503.01, and one bill, we do not know of what amount, is to come in.

COURT OF PRIVATE LAND CLAIMS.

The CHAIRMAN. Court of Private Land Claims?

Mr. CLAY. The reason for that is set forth in Document 214.

Mr. SAYERS. I want to ask a question about the Court of Private Land Claims. It says here: "It is estimated by the United States attorney for the Court of Private Land Claims that the entire work of the court can be completed with the additional appropriation of \$10,000 herein requested." That very same statement was made four or five years ago about the New Mexico court—the very same statement.

Mr. PERRY. The work has been added to since then.

Mr. CLAY. The court has been prolonged.

Mr. SAYERS. They said they could get through with the work.

Mr. PERRY. You know a great many titles were resisted out there, and you know in the Peralta case alone we saved millions of dollars. There is a letter now before the United States attorney in connection with it. We endeavored to get it in the original deficiency, you remember. The appropriation is absolutely exhausted and

the people are now urging, and the attorney has written to ask the Department whether he shall dismiss them all or go ahead and await a general deficiency.

The CHAIRMAN. This note, I take it, tells the truth—that it is exhausted, with five months yet to care for.

Mr. PERRY. Yes, sir. Of course, if there is no intention of appropriating the money, we would have to tell him they must stop right here.

The CHAIRMAN. If it is worth keeping at all, I guess—

Mr. PERRY. We have to keep it going or close up that work.

Mr. SAYERS. Will you guarantee this is the last appropriation you will ask for that court?

Mr. PERRY. No, sir. Of course I do not suppose it is a proper question to ask, if we would be warranted in letting them go ahead with their work in anticipation of this appropriation being made.

The CHAIRMAN. I do not know about that. You run the law for this Government.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. And there are 357 other men in the House.

Mr. PERRY. I know, but it depends upon a few of you here.

The CHAIRMAN. I suppose if you ask me what my judgment is, if you have it correct here, we have got to appropriate this money. I do not know, now; I am only speaking because you asked me the question—

Mr. CLAY. There is another item right below there—for payment of special assistant attorney in the supreme court, \$10,000. That comes in Document 214. Was that put in this deficiency bill?

Mr. PERRY. It is right here.

WEIL AND LA ABRA CASES.

The CHAIRMAN. The next item is the La Abra case.

Mr. CLAY. That is a case that has always been in the hands of a special attorney for years. That case is now pending before the Supreme Court.

The CHAIRMAN. Where did this case originate?

Mr. SAYERS. There was an award against the Mexican Government for a large sum of money, and before it was finally paid the Mexican Government entered its protest upon the ground that the award was rendered upon fraud, and suit was instituted and the case is now pending before the Supreme Court. I remember the case. It is an old soldier.

The CHAIRMAN. Here is a letter from Mr. Maury. If I understand, Mr. Maury is special counsel.

Mr. PERRY. He is in charge of the two cases.

The CHAIRMAN. One has been closed and the other is on. Is that it?

Mr. PERRY. Yes, sir; as I understand.

The CHAIRMAN. And he is attending to it now?

Mr. PERRY. Yes, sir.

Mr. CLAY. Yes, sir; he goes through Mexico and Texas after evidence, etc.

The CHAIRMAN. You do not know that this is to be closed up, or what the amount of fees will be in the end?

Mr. PERRY. No, sir; we can not tell.

Mr. CLAY. There is one item, if you do not object to taking it out of its order, under Assistant Attorney Pradt, at the bottom of page 51. The others are matters in regard to Mr. Perry and court appropriations.

DEFENDING SUITS IN CLAIMS AGAINST THE UNITED STATES.

STATEMENT OF MR. LOUIS A. PRADT, ASSISTANT ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

Mr. PRADT. I estimate that will be the amount needed in order to pay for services that will have to be rendered by the end of the fiscal year. The claims of what are called war claims have been in the past six months very active, and while in the first half of my year I ran just about even, this last half it has been very difficult, and I have had to have the most of our force attending to those claims, and the special force in the field has to attend to taking depositions, as you are aware all testimony is by deposition.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you mean claims under the Bowman Act, where the question of loyalty, etc., is concerned.

Mr. PRADT. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. I thought those were all complete. What is the amount of those claims pending in that court?

Mr. PRADT. It is difficult to say. Some of them have not made any move in it yet, and we do not know how much they ask, and some are slumbering here in the House,

but some day they will be dumped in on us, so it is very difficult to say. In addition to that, there is a special attorney attending to what is called French spoliation cases, and I found when I came in that he was being paid at the rate of \$4,000 a year. There was also, when I came in, what you might call a regular special attorney, one who had been employed before I came, and he was retained by the new Attorney-General and has been retained since, who is getting \$3,000 a year. These letter-carrier cases are before two commissioners, and they get at the rate of \$2,500 a year and they have been very active, and, I think—I do not want to promise—but I think these cases will be nearly disposed of about the close of this fiscal year—that is, the letter-carrier cases. They are disposed of by commissioners.

The CHAIRMAN. What is the necessity of any evidence in those cases? The principle has been established, where they work overtime they get their money.

Mr. PRADT. Yes; but it is like this: If these cases had to be proven, as all ordinary claims are, by individual suits, we never would get through in a million years, because there are thousands of them; so before I came in there I think Mr. Cotton originated the idea—it originated in the Post-Office Department and the Department of Justice—of appointing a commissioner, who could go around to the different cities and make his report.

The CHAIRMAN. Just let me stop you right there to ask you a question which occurs to me: Now, the case was taken to the Supreme Court, and they recovered for all work over eight hours?

Mr. PRADT. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, when that principle was established, why would it not be better to refer the whole matter to the Treasury Department and allow them to audit?

Mr. PRADT. I am glad you asked me, because there comes the real question. It is a pure question of fact, and every one of these claimants, almost without exception, ask from two to four times as much as they ought to get; and if it was referred there there would probably be only such testimony as the claimants could offer, and they would get about three times as much as they are getting.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there any evidence from the various post-offices as to the amount of services these people performed?

Mr. PRADT. There is what is called a record evidence, and at first we attempted to rely upon that. In other words, the postmaster would make the carrier, after this decision especially, record the time when he came and left, and that he turned in *was* fictitious. In other words, he would make him record just the proper time—that he arrived at the proper hour and left at the proper hour.

The CHAIRMAN. They do not employ them over eight hours now?

Mr. PRADT. I think it is practically at an end, but it has taken years to bring it about. Now, that was the general practice, and we could not rely upon the record at all; so this method of finding the real facts was resorted to, and, well, you might say, in over 99 per cent of the cases where the commissioner makes his report it is, as a rule, about one-third of what they claim.

The CHAIRMAN. What becomes of it?

Mr. PRADT. That report is brought in and we examine it and see his computations are correct, and then we agree those are the facts, providing the claimant will agree to it; and in almost every case he agrees to it, because he gets the money, and if he did not he might have to wait for years for his money.

The CHAIRMAN. Are judgments entered by agreement?

Mr. PRADT. It is not exactly that; but we agree, on the part of the Government, those are the facts; and then they agree that it is also, by a motion for judgment, and that bars them from anything more. Now, once in a while we have a kick to it, and in the main every case where they have kicked and brought individual suits they have recovered from two to three times as much as the commissioner allowed; so I think it is a very great saving and really a very fine method of settling.

The CHAIRMAN. Now you need this increase of \$10,000.

Mr. PRADT. I think so.

ALASKA, RENT AND INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.

The CHAIRMAN. The next item is rent and incidental expenses, Territory of Alaska.

Mr. PERRY. That is simply \$4,000, because we ask for an increase next year. It is in view of the increase of the office. The same way with the next item for traveling expenses of the Territory of Alaska.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

The CHAIRMAN. The next item is miscellaneous. Who is Silas W. Day?

Mr. PERRY. He was a special inspector of customs. It is a great, long story. He was sued and he received a salary, and he being defendant in the case, had to expend

that amount of money, \$410.29, and it was recommended by the Secretary of the Treasury it should be appropriated for. The expenses are for witness fees, expenses of marshals, and several things of that kind. This assault was performed during the performance of his duty.

The CHAIRMAN. The next item is for payment of physicians who rendered medical and surgical aid to United States deputy marshals, etc., \$76.

Mr. PERRY. Of course we can not pay from current appropriation.

The CHAIRMAN. Who were they?

Mr. PERRY. They were posse men in the eastern district of Arkansas where there was a riot.

The CHAIRMAN. For the payment of John H. Kent, town sergeant of Houston, Va., etc. That is the same thing?

Mr. PERRY. No, sir; he is a town sergeant in Virginia who arrested a person, and under the law we can not pay this sergeant this amount of money which he should properly receive.

The CHAIRMAN. You have paid him something?

Mr. PERRY. No, sir; nothing at all. The man was arrested and afterwards served time in the penitentiary.

The CHAIRMAN. And has not been paid anything?

Mr. PERRY. No, sir; they often do that for us and in that way we capture desperate criminals. In this case the transportation and fees are the fees he would have received under the Virginia laws. Of course he was not authorized to execute a United States process. It is a very proper claim and should be paid, I think; otherwise if they do not get reimbursed oftentimes desperate criminals get away.

The CHAIRMAN. For the payment of the Kansas Patron, etc.?

Mr. PERRY. This is away back in 1891, you will notice. I have the correspondence and all these cases here.

The CHAIRMAN. Why did not they audit the claim?

Mr. PERRY. Then we would have to get an appropriation under miscellaneous appropriation of 1891. It makes no difference to us.

The CHAIRMAN. Is this a legal claim?

Mr. PERRY. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Barred by statute, I reckon; did you ever try to audit it?

Mr. PERRY. The claim is before the Department and we thought this was the best way to settle. I think that is a case that extended over several years.

The CHAIRMAN. For preparing and printing opinions of the United States courts in the Indian Territory in citizenship cases, \$1,000?

Mr. PERRY. Judge Springer has rendered some valuable opinions in the Indian Territory on the question of citizenship in the Territory, and he urges the Department that they be printed for future reference. We endeavored to obtain from him an estimate of the cost and he said that we perhaps could do that better than he could. He states they will contain about 1,200 pages of manuscript, 384,000 words, and all the opinions will not exceed 500,000 words. He claims that will be needed for reference in the litigation of titles out there.

The CHAIRMAN. The next item is to establish sites, and for the erection of the United States court-house and United States jail at Juneau, Alaska, etc., \$40,000?

Mr. PERRY. This is caused on account of the fire which took place a few weeks ago, in which everything was burned down. If you remember, we asked for \$5,000, which included a safe for Juneau, Alaska. Of course, that \$3,500 for that safe can now be dropped out. We have no jail or court-house there, or anything else. The marshal asked for \$100,000, but on consulting with some people, we cut it down to \$40,000. We will have to have something there, as you can not rent any building, as there are no buildings for rent.

The CHAIRMAN. You can not do it on this bill; you would have to go to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds.

Mr. PERRY. In a territory like this?

The CHAIRMAN. Certainly, anywhere. That is just a public building—to establish a site and for the erection of a United States court-house?

Mr. PERRY. You appropriated something for the United States penitentiary at Leavenworth, and you are appropriating each year exactly this way.

The CHAIRMAN. But we had a law for it, and there is no law for this.

Mr. PERRY. You made the law in your appropriation.

The CLERK OF COMMITTEE. No; there was a specific act.

Mr. PERRY. Not concerning the new penitentiary. That was for transferring the old penitentiary.

Mr. SAYERS. It was all done upon an appropriation act. I got an order from the Committee on Rules.

Mr. PERRY. This is the manner in which they are now building the new penitentiary—to establish a site and erect a penitentiary.

The CHAIRMAN. That is separate legislation.

Mr. SAYERS. I got an order when I was chairman of the Committee on Appropriations.

The CLERK OF COMMITTEE. You got an order to utilize the military prison and afterwards Mr. Broderick got a special act of Congress through to build a new United States prison, and under that you are now appropriating.

The CHAIRMAN. This legislation is prohibited under our rules.

Mr. PERRY. Something ought to be done with that in some way.

The CHAIRMAN. I do not know of any way to do it except by legislation. The next item is for payment of Columbia Title Insurance Company, etc., \$165.

Mr. PERRY. I do not want to take advantage of you, but you refused to appropriate last year because the law says that the title must be furnished by the person selling the property, and here was a case where the marshal had disbursed this money and is supposed to have disbursed it properly, and it seems to me the appropriation should be made.

The CHAIRMAN. The next item is to reimburse Henry Rechten, disbursing clerk of the Department of Justice, the amount paid by him for the use of rooms for the commissioners appointed to revise and codify, etc., \$65. What I do not understand about it is you still provide for that office.

Mr. PERRY. The way they do now is we have to divide the rent into three parts in order that their accounts shall pass the Treasury Department, because the Comptroller construed the word "expenses" meant the personal expenses of the commissioners and disallowed those accounts. It is the same way with all expenses. We had to divide the clerk's pay in the same way and divide the purchase of stationery up. One would buy this book and another another, etc.

Mr. NORTHWAY. Do you think the Department advised them that was good law?

The CHAIRMAN. What provision do you want to cure that?

Mr. PERRY. There ought to be a provision—could it not be corrected that the appropriation is for the expenses of the commissioners and the commission?

Mr. SAYERS. What expenses have they got?

Mr. PERRY. Rent, clerk hire, stationery, supplies.

UNITED STATES COURTS.

The CHAIRMAN. The next item is United States courts, with some long provisions.

Mr. PERRY. I might explain that, perhaps. Except in the Territories the marshal is appointed for four years. At the last day he goes out of office, and with him, under the Comptroller's decision, the office and field deputies, and the office is absolutely vacant; there is no one to receive papers or to do anything. If it is during a recess of the Senate an appointment has to be made by the circuit court justice. Of course you can readily appreciate the fact that the circuit court justice is always quite a distance from the marshal's office. The appointment is made, and the marshal sworn in. Then he makes out a bond, and that has to be forwarded to the circuit justice who made the appointment. It can not be approved by the court who has got his marshal, and the day the circuit justice approves the bond that day he becomes fully qualified as marshal. In the meantime these office deputies were acting, and the marshal has been acting fully qualified except the approval of his bond, and they have simply all lost their salary and expenses, and really every act they did was invalid.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you think this would validate it?

Mr. PERRY. I think that would make it all right, because when a man once gets into court he is there. There should be one more provision added to this, even if it is so long, and that is for the clerks to district attorneys; and we would have sent it up to-day, but we did not know at the time you wanted it. The Comptroller has ruled if a district attorney goes out of office to-day and his successor does not get in until next Tuesday, say, that the clerk is out of office and has to be reappointed. If he is out to-morrow and goes in the next day, the clerk goes right along. It is in view of these irregular decisions we are compelled to ask for this legislation:

"Provided further, That the disbursing officer of the Department of Justice is authorized and required to pay each person who was appointed a clerk in the office of a United States district attorney, and between July first, eighteen hundred and ninety-six, and July first, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, acted as such clerk from the expiration of the term of office of one United States district attorney until the qualification of the next succeeding United States district attorney, the payment to be in accordance with the salary previously fixed by the Attorney-General; and said disbursing officer shall receive credit for such disbursements in his accounts."

The CHAIRMAN. I wish you would send this over to the Committee on the Judiciary and let them perform on it.

Mr. PERRY. Will you let us add this one in the same line? We can send it in a letter to you, or I can present it here. This is just for the clerks to the district attorneys I have just explained. Now, there are two other items in that same provision. One is for the reimbursement of Marshal Hammer for nearly \$35,000 for

vouchers destroyed by fire at Ardmore. Not only were the vouchers destroyed, but all the records of the court were destroyed, and while he presented to the Department a sworn statement he had expended that money, based on accounts at the sub-treasury, we did not feel that that was sufficient to permit us to pass the accounts. In other words, it opened the doors for some future person to make a claim that certain accounts and vouchers had been destroyed, and we felt that special legislation should be given us for that. The same way in the case of Marshal Foraker, below, in which case he claimed the witness rolls were stolen by somebody. He is now endeavoring to secure a new roll. Whether he will be successful in securing it or not I do not know, as you know on a roll sometimes there are a hundred names of persons. You will notice in here we state: "On proof satisfactory to the Attorney-General of the United States." I do not know just what proof we will require, but otherwise it will open the door to endless claims.

The CHAIRMAN. You do not say the amount involved here.

Mr. PERRY. In the case of Foraker?

The CHAIRMAN. You do not in the other account.

Mr. PERRY. The accounts were not in in the case of Marshal Hammer.

Mr. SAYERS. Do you think that by this legislation your Department will be able to protect the Government?

Mr. PERRY. You will notice what we say down here. We will require all that evidence before we will pass the account at all.

The CHAIRMAN. Go to the item for salaries of United States district attorneys, where you ask for \$25,000.

Mr. PERRY. That is for the current year. This simply brings us up to the estimate in the sundry civil bill.

The CHAIRMAN. The deficiency is \$25,000, and you asked for \$350,000 and we gave you \$360,000?

Mr. PERRY. You remember I had all the figures here before when we were here on the sundry civil bill and showed what it cost.

The CHAIRMAN. For 1897 you ask \$24,619.50?

Mr. PERRY. The district attorneys did not receive their salaries for the month of June last year, because there was not enough money appropriated. This was the first year under the salary bill, you remember.

The CHAIRMAN. For the payment of regular assistants to United States district attorneys, \$6,000?

Mr. PERRY. This is simply to carry us through until the end of the current year. It will be \$1,000 more. I think we will need the \$1,000 more, but I am not sure, there have been a few changes made. The next is for a little bill of \$66.05 rendered under the fee system in the southern district of New York. The next comes rent of United States court rooms, where we ask a deficiency of \$10,000, the same as you appropriated in the sundry civil bill.

The CHAIRMAN. The next item is to pay Mrs. H. F. Barfield, executrix, for cleaning and repairing the building formerly occupied for United States court purposes in Columbus, Ga., \$51?

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Livingston presented the papers in that case.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. There is no doubt about that. They took the residence, and under the contract they were expected to leave it in as good a condition as they found it, and they did not do it, and they told her to go to work and have it cleaned up, and she sent in a bill and the Attorney-General said there was no money appropriated to pay the bill. We have got his letter here.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you mean we had rented this woman's house?

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there a written lease?

Mr. PERRY. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you paid the rent?

Mr. PERRY. Yes, sir; promptly.

The CHAIRMAN. Were you bound to clean the house under the contract?

Mr. PERRY. I believe there was some dispute between the marshal's office and Mrs. Barfield. She claimed there was a great deal of dirt left in the building.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Carpets had to be taken up and the walls all cleaned, etc. The itemized statement is here, and affidavits.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there an estimate for it?

Mr. PERRY. No, sir; the Department does not submit that.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. The letter of the Attorney-General and the vouchers are there for the money she paid for the cleaning, etc., and the Attorney-General simply says he has no money from which that could be paid.

Mr. PERRY. It was a court room, and the lease had expired, and—

The CHAIRMAN. I wish you would pass on it.

Mr. PERRY. We have passed on it, and a copy of the Attorney-General's letter is here.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. There is no doubt about this being right.

Mr. PERRY. They went from this house to a new house.

The CHAIRMAN. Go to the item of fees for jurors.

Mr. PERRY. Those are ascertained amounts from United States marshals. You see they are very small.

The CHAIRMAN. They are all ascertained on that page?

Mr. PERRY. They are not ascertained claims, but they are outstanding claims in the hands of the marshals, ascertained to be so by the Attorney-General. They are different from what you call ascertained claims. The next one is an ascertained claim. We think we will need that \$20,000 for pay of bailiffs, criers, etc.

The CHAIRMAN. You say you think you will need it?

Mr. PERRY. It is impossible to tell otherwise.

The CHAIRMAN. You will find out by this time next year—next fall?

Mr. PERRY. We do not want to make the bailiffs wait for this or for the criers and judges to wait for their expenses. Those are the items paid out of it.

The CHAIRMAN. How much did you expend for six months?

Mr. PERRY. When we were here before we had \$20,873, and we stated at that time we would ask for a deficiency of \$20,000, and you appropriated in the sundry civil bill—

The CHAIRMAN. You mean all this \$150,000 was expended except \$20,000 a month ago?

Mr. PERRY. It was; and then there have been repayments by marshals and others nearly that much, so there is nearly that much balance to-day or more, so that really there is a larger balance to-day than then.

The CHAIRMAN. You say you have got a larger balance to-day?

Mr. PERRY. We have about \$27,000 now. You might make that \$10,000. I am sure we will need that much anyway.

The CHAIRMAN. Miscellaneous expenses?

Mr. PERRY. Twenty-five thousand dollars for the current year, that we need. We had \$38,000 out of \$200,000 when we were here before on the sundry civil bill.

The CHAIRMAN. For the fiscal year 1897 you ask \$6,000?

Mr. PERRY. Those are claims ascertained to be in the hands of marshals awaiting payment.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that so with all these?

Mr. PERRY. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. In 1897 you had \$6,000?

Mr. PERRY. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Go to the item for paying three deputy clerks of the United States district courts in the Indian Territory, \$7,200.

Mr. PERRY. You remember you appropriated last year for the pay of deputy clerks at Muscogee, South MacAlester, and Ardmore up to and including June 30, but you made no provision for their pay for the present year. The law stated originally they would be entitled to a deputy clerk other than at headquarters, and that is one of the very places where they need a deputy. You see they also receive fees from the Territory, and they have to employ additional clerical assistance out of their own emoluments, and they do need a deputy at each one of those places for United States business.

The CHAIRMAN. There is no law for it, except it is found in the appropriation?

Mr. PERRY. You appropriated for it last year, and clerks are being employed there now. The only thing I believe we have now left is the three jails in the Indian Territory.

MONDAY, March 14, 1898.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

REIMBURSEMENTS TO THE COLONIAL GOVERNMENT OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.

STATEMENT OF MR. T. B. SANDERS.

Mr. SAYERS. Please explain this item.

Mr. SANDERS. This is a steamship of Philadelphia, and she sailed from that port and was not heard from. A ship went down off the Falkland Islands under full sail and it was thought that it might be her, because it was about the time for her to arrive at that place; and the American consul urgently insisted that we should employ a diver, and a diver was employed by the Government and paid £75.

Mr. SAYERS. By whom?

Mr. SANDERS. By the Colonial Government of the Falkland Islands; and it was done at the solicitation of the consul, and the diver identified the ship as being from the city of Philadelphia.

Mr. SAYERS. An American ship?

Mr. SANDERS. As being that ship; and the State Department requests that payment be made in this case, and we inserted the item in the deficiency bill.

Mr. SAYERS. You say that the diver recognized it?

Mr. SANDERS. He identified the ship. He found some kitchen range boilers which were shipped on this vessel, and the manufacturers had shipped none on any other vessel; and then he found some other packages, the numbers of which were in the manifest of the custom-house in Philadelphia, and the manufacturers of those articles say those things were shipped in the vessel, and the underwriters paid the insurance upon the evidence.

E. G. DEILE, PAYMENT TO.

STATEMENT OF MR. W. H. CHANCE, CHIEF OF DIVISION OF SPECIAL AGENTS.

Mr. SAYERS. Explain the necessity for this appropriation.

Mr. CHANCE. If you will permit me I will say, first, after more careful examination of this case on Saturday, I have, with the consent of the Assistant Secretary, Mr. Howell, to recommend no action be taken upon the request for a deficiency appropriation at this time, so we may make still further investigation on the Pacific coast; and in that case you do not care for the details.

Mr. SAYERS. No.

POSTAL SERVICE.

FREE DELIVERY.

STATEMENT OF MR. A. W. MACHEN, SUPERINTENDENT OF THE FREE-DELIVERY SYSTEM.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, I want to ask you a single question. As I understand you from conversation on Saturday last, you make a deficiency estimate here, which is formally transmitted in Document No. 246, of \$163,281.25. Now, if I understand you aright, if that deficiency appropriation is not made it means that you have got from between this and the 1st of July to decrease your free-delivery service by that amount?

Mr. MACHEN. As far as the salary of letter carriers is concerned.

The CHAIRMAN. If this is not made is that what you would do?

Mr. MACHEN. Yes; that is all we could do.

The CHAIRMAN. And if it is made the present force would continue?

Mr. MACHEN. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. But, if I understand you aright now, that amount would not enable you to increase the force?

Mr. MACHEN. No, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. This would enable you to run it as it now is?

Mr. MACHEN. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. I wanted to see if I understood that correctly. Now Mr. Loud, who is chairman of the Committee on the Post-Office and Post-Roads, which makes the annual appropriations for the postal service, is present, and wants a hearing, and also to examine you touching this matter.

Mr. MACHEN. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. And if, Mr. Sayers, you have no questions to ask, or any other member of the subcommittee, I will just turn the inquiry over to Mr. Loud.

Mr. SAYERS. All right.

Mr. LOUD. As Mr. Cannon has made some inquiry of you relating to the continuance of the present service, I want to call attention to some items here which I had not intended to reach until after I had touched some other subjects.

The CHAIRMAN. You can take your own course; just take your own course about the matter, because I feel that this is more your appropriation than ours, in one sense. It is technically ours, but substantially yours.

Mr. LOUD. I find you ask \$7,500 for additional help, and you will find you ask something also for incidental expenses in addition to the present service; so your statement that it is to continue the present service can not be absolutely correct.

Mr. MACHEN. I will explain that by saying we have in emergencies, in election times, at summer resorts, etc., provided temporary carriers to keep the service up and to prevent the regular force from making overtime.

Mr. LOUD. Of course, I understand that.

Mr. MACHEN. At the time I made this deficiency estimate there were urgent applications for additional carriers. One case in particular I have in mind—Brooklyn,

N. Y.—where we are holding up or carrying along the service by temporary employment of letter carriers.

Mr. LOUD. That is all I wanted to touch right there—that this item does not cover really the present service but contemplated service.

Mr. MACHEN. And the \$6,000 for incidental expenses covers the expenditure made from day to day in post-offices that have to be met.

Mr. LOUD. Now, you ask \$12,000 there, I see, for holiday service?

Mr. MACHEN. Where?

The CHAIRMAN. What holidays do you anticipate between the time this was made and the 1st day of July—between the 21th of January and the 1st of July?

Mr. MACHEN. Where is that item?

Mr. LOUD. On page 3.

Mr. MACHEN. That \$12,000 was for the service performed during the holidays of December of 1897, accounts for which had not been rendered to my office at the time this deficiency estimate was made. You see this was made out under date of January 24, and some of those accounts have not been fully adjusted at this time.

Mr. LOUD. Now, I want to turn to Document 79, which is a document sent to the Senate, in which your Department say:

“In this connection I deem it proper to state that the appropriation allowed by Congress for the free-delivery system for the current fiscal year, plus the deficiency of \$163,000, exceeds by only \$500 the estimates submitted by this Department for the salaries of letter carriers at established offices.”

I would like to know if you still hold that to be a correct statement.

Mr. MACHEN. As I explained to you personally, Mr. Loud, about the time that document was sent to the Senate, or the time we made our estimate to your committee, the estimate of salaries for letter carriers at established offices and for all purposes for the established service for 1897-98 was \$12,691,500. You appropriated for the maintenance of the service at established offices \$12,529,000, and made a separate item of \$90,000 for the establishment of the service at new offices, which made a cut in the estimated appropriation, as far as the established service was concerned, of \$162,500, or, taking the two items together a net cut of \$72,500.

Mr. LOUD. That is correct; the statement of \$162,500 is not correct.

Mr. MACHEN. It is correct as far as the service in established offices is concerned.

Mr. LOUD. Let me call your attention right there to the estimate:

“For additional carriers for the extension of the service at established offices, and for establishment thereof at new offices, \$180,000.”

Mr. MACHEN. Yes, sir.

Mr. LOUD. Now, do I understand you did not intend to use any of this money for establishing new offices?

Mr. MACHEN. Not if a deficiency was threatened, because then we would have no excuse for making it.

Mr. LOUD. Then why did not you estimate for this service? You only asked \$180,000 for the extension of the service at established offices and establishing new offices?

Mr. MACHEN. Yes, sir.

Mr. LOUD. We took \$90,000 of the money in accordance with the statement you made that there were 125 offices entitled to this, but you could not establish these for the reason of the pressure from other sources, so we gave you \$90,000 in a segregated item for the establishment of this service at new offices. Now, the only way you can possibly reach that \$162,500 is by taking the \$90,000 we did appropriate and charge it up to us as not appropriated.

Mr. MACHEN. Not exactly so, because if we had the whole amount of the estimate, \$12,691,500, and at the beginning of the fiscal year we found we were going to have a deficiency we would not have established new offices. In that way the establishment of the service would have been left to the discretion of the Postmaster-General.

Mr. LOUD. Yes, I know, but it is a subterfuge and you can not fix it in that way.

Mr. MACHEN. And I will say the net cut will be \$72,500.

Mr. LOUD. I acknowledge the cut was \$72,500, but no man, by any process of figuring, can make the thing in any other manner. You can figure it up as you please. Of course I do not represent Congress, although you know that item has been thrown back upon my shoulders, that I was personally responsible for this. I am perfectly willing to admit that we appropriated \$72,500 for this service less than was estimated, but no more than that. Now, I find you had \$97,458 available on the 1st of last July, and this, I understand, is outside of new office service.

Mr. MACHEN. For the extension of the service in established offices.

Mr. LOUD. For the extension of the service in established offices, and to that you really should have added the \$55,000 which you put to your credit here for deductions by reason of change of grade?

Mr. MACHEN. I have deducted that.

Mr. LOUD. You have further on; really, as a matter of fact, you had available for this year \$152,458?

Mr. MACHEN. Yes; less about \$25,000, which would be consumed in the holiday service, emergency service, and matters of that kind.

Mr. LOUD. That is all estimated here?

Mr. MACHEN. No; it is not. I have taken out the fixed charges against the appropriation, salary charge, vacation service, promotions required by law, or the fixed charges against salary for July 1, 1897, \$12,481,542, leaving a balance available for additional help to maintain the service within present limits and to prevent over-time, \$97,458. Now, the emergency service for holidays, election times, and summer resorts would have to come out of that.

Mr. LOUD. Oh, no; but it was all in your original estimate.

Mr. MACHEN. Yes, sir; but this is a statement of the way the appropriation was disbursed.

Mr. LOUD. The best we can do is to confine ourselves to the figures. Further on you do allow \$55,000 by reason of change of grade?

Mr. MACHEN. Yes, sir.

Mr. LOUD. That should have been, according to your own figures—

Mr. MACHEN. Seventy-five thousand dollars.

Mr. LOUD. More than \$100,000. I want to call your attention to one thing particularly. You stated that the average pay of letter carriers on the 1st of last July—that is, for the last year—was \$933.38, and your separations from the service that year were 328.

Mr. MACHEN. Yes.

Mr. LOUD. Now, it is safe to assume that the separations were paid the average salary, which would have amounted to \$109,419?

Mr. MACHEN. If the carriers were separated from the 1st of July, and all separations were from the thousand and the eight hundred and fifty dollar grades.

Mr. LOUD. The separations would have the average salary.

Mr. MACHEN. No, sir. If they were separated on the 1st day of July, then the full amount of difference between salaries would be credited; if on the 1st day of June, for instance, only one-twelfth of that amount. The decrease on this estimate I wish to explain right here (I see the credit is \$55,000 instead of \$75,000, as I think I estimated it). After the change of administration a great many vacancies were filled by reinstatement of soldiers to the salary which they held when they were dropped from the service, so that in a great many cases no credits accrued by separations; for instance, at Philadelphia alone there were 35 reinstatements at full salary, whereas if promotions had been from among substitute letter carriers at \$600 a year the Government would have had the credit of 35 times \$400 or \$14,000. The estimate in deficiency statement is taken from the actual separations up to the time it was made. As the year advances of course the pro rata credit decreases.

Mr. LOUD. Well now, we will go back to your having, according to your figures, \$152,458 for extension of service in established offices. In the face of that you continued to put on carriers to more than eat up that amount of money?

Mr. MACHEN. Yes.

Mr. LOUD. Now you put on here, I see, 42 on the 1st of July, at \$600, and 19 at \$1,000. Where did they come from?

Mr. MACHEN. They are some of the reinstatements I referred to. Twenty-one at \$800. Those were reinstatements to the second class. Two at \$850, they were reinstatements. There were 42 reinstatements.

Mr. LOUD. Do you allow carriers vacations during the first six months?

Mr. MACHEN. Yes, sir; they are allowed vacation from the time they enter the service.

Mr. LOUD. That is your construction of the law, then, that they can take a vacation as soon as they enter the service?

Mr. MACHEN. That is the way the law reads, I think. That is, they take the pro rata vacation from date of appointment. If they are appointed on January 1, 1898, for instance, they are entitled to seven and one-half days to July 1, 1898.

Mr. LOUD. Now, then, to sum up the statement, the \$162,500 less appropriated than estimated for has been reduced down to \$72,500?

Mr. MACHEN. On that account.

Mr. LOUD. And you will find the Department, having \$152,458 for the extension of service, continued to extend the service to the amount of \$250,298.50 in the first six months, and that the Department did not submit any deficiency estimate to Congress until there had been considerable disturbance about it; and you went on, even on the 1st of January you gave \$20,000 here—

Mr. MACHEN. Those were allowances made prior to that time, the service to commence and appointments to take effect January 1st.

Mr. LOUD. Of course you understand you had no right to use any more money than was appropriated?

Mr. MACHEN. Well, we understood that, but we had to take care of the service.
Mr. LOUD. Now, I would like to ask you if both you and Mr. Heath did not say to me, when I had the first hearing before our committee, that in your opinion some cities of this country had too large a service?

Mr. MACHEN. Yes; I said so.

Mr. LOUD. We will name two of those cities. Boston is one and New York the other, and yet I find you have allowed the city of Boston, in the face of that, 19 carriers, and the city of New York—the number is not here, but \$18,000 in a lump sum.

Mr. MACHEN. That is equal to 30 for the full year.

Mr. LOUD. And that in face of the fact it had been constantly admitted that those cities had too large a service already before this extra amount was allowed?

Mr. MACHEN. There is no doubt that New York and Boston, compared with other cities, have more service in the residential portion of the city.

Mr. LOUD. Is it not a fact that in both the city of New York and the city of Boston each carrier delivers to a less number of people than any other city in the United States, notwithstanding the people there are more concentrated than in any other city?

Mr. MACHEN. In New York it is so, and, I think, in Boston, too. In New York the number is 1,408, and in Boston it is 1,034.

Mr. LOUD. The understanding was, when you had the hearing before, that there were some cities in which there was too large a service?

Mr. MACHEN. Yes, sir; but the question came up—

Mr. LOUD. In the interest of the service both yourself and Mr. Heath thought it was advisable to endeavor to cut it down?

Mr. MACHEN. I beg to differ with you as far as I was concerned. I told you it was a physical impossibility to do it.

Mr. LOUD. Mr. Heath did?

Mr. MACHEN. I said it was a physical impossibility to do it.

Mr. LOUD. You never made that statement until this year?

Mr. MACHEN. We tried it in Boston when the Department reduced the deliveries in Back Bay district from seven to five.

Mr. LOUD. How could you do it in Philadelphia if you could not do it in Boston? You took a hundred carriers off there.

Mr. MACHEN. We simply took up the slack there. We found the carriers were working six hours and we reduced their number 100, and made the remaining carriers work eight hours; but we did not cut the number of deliveries or collections.

Mr. LOUD. Then the Department is powerless to restrict and Congress is powerless to restrict the Department; that is the situation?

Mr. MACHEN. I hold that the Department is powerless to-day to go into New York and reduce the service there from six deliveries in the residential portion to four.

Mr. LOUD. I do not care anything about that phase of the case. Is it powerless for the Department to go into New York and take a carrier out?

Mr. MACHEN. No, sir; the Department can do anything arbitrarily.

Mr. LOUD. But you say it is a physical impossibility?

Mr. MACHEN. Well, it is if you want to live with the people.

Mr. LOUD. In the face of the amount of money given you continued to put on carriers up to the time this excitement arose here; you put on 376 carriers according to your statement, and this \$48,000 is also an addition to that, I understand?

Mr. MACHEN. We put in a lump sum of \$48,000, equal to 80 carriers for a full year. I do not remember the number of carriers appointed under this lump sum at each office. Is Chicago on that list? In Chicago there were 52 carriers appointed.

Mr. LOUD. Neither Chicago nor New York are included in your list, so you have allowed \$48,000 in addition to the 376 carriers.

Mr. MACHEN. That has all been provided for by 52 carriers in Chicago and some in New York.

Mr. LOUD. Now, I would like to ask you how many carriers you proposed to cut off throughout the country at the time the Senate called for this information?

Mr. MACHEN. How many we proposed to cut off?

Mr. LOUD. Or how many you ordered cut off?

Mr. MACHEN. There was no order made to cut off.

Mr. LOUD. Well, how many did you propose to cut off?

Mr. MACHEN. We proposed to cut off enough to make up the deficiency.

Mr. LOUD. You have got your letters and telegrams you sent out, or copies of them?

Mr. MACHEN. Oh, yes. We sent letters to the offices for which these allowances had been made to the effect that we would reduce the force by the number of additional carriers allowed under the appropriation for this fiscal year.

Mr. LOUD. Did you make the suggestion in my city, notwithstanding the fact we have had but one or two carriers within six or seven years, that they should be cut down 30?

Mr. MACHEN. Not 30; 15, I think.

Mr. LOUD. Thirty; and they say it was ordered. They say it was an order. On this question I think perhaps the telegrams ought to be produced, to see whether it is an order or suggestion.

Mr. MACHEN. I am not prepared to say whether it is an order or suggestion.

Mr. LOUD. I would like to ask if you did not also suggest a reduction in St. Louis, also Cincinnati, also the city of Portland, Me., and as to whether you did not generally throughout the whole country suggest a reduction in the carrier force, in order, perhaps, to concentrate the influence of every Member of Congress in behalf of this appropriation?

Mr. MACHEN. No, sir; that was not the object.

Mr. LOUD. How many did you suggest should be cut off?

Mr. MACHEN. I can tell exactly by going over my book. I think all allowed for the offices on that list.

Mr. LOUD. San Francisco and Cincinnati?

Mr. MACHEN. San Francisco; there is a recommendation—

Mr. LOUD. The city of Portland—the Speaker's town—and several other places?

Mr. MACHEN. There was a recommendation made two years ago to reduce the force at San Francisco by 30, and it was renewed last fall.

Mr. LOUD. Notwithstanding they have had no new carriers for seven years, I think?

Mr. MACHEN. That is true; but we found that conditions out there warranted it. We would have reduced Portland 2, the number allowed this year, and Cincinnati 11, also allowed this year.

Mr. LOUD (to the chairman). I wish you would have the gentleman submit to this committee the number of carriers it was suggested to cut off at that time. I will put it in the form of a suggestion, but everybody understood it was an order. The postmaster at my place telegraphed to me that he had been ordered to cut off 30 carriers on the force from the 1st day of February.

The CHAIRMAN. Can you write the committee a letter giving the information?

Mr. MACHEN. I can; yes, sir.

Mr. LOUD. Take every office in the country that received a letter.

Mr. MACHEN. Yes, sir.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Will you not state in the letter why you made the suggestion?

Mr. MACHEN. Yes, sir; I will state that right here.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Let that come with it.

Mr. MACHEN. All right.

Mr. SAYERS. Let him state it now.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. I have no objection to your stating it now.

Mr. MACHEN. Well, it was decided by the Department that if a reduction was to be made to make good this deficiency we would take those offices at which allowances had been made for additional carriers under this appropriation, and one or two others where there had been a recommendation for a reduction of force.

Mr. LOUD. Would it not seem to be inevitable that your proposed cut here would have made a saving of \$700,000 or \$800,000 in a year instead of covering a paltry sum of \$72,500?

Mr. MACHEN. In the full year?

Mr. LOUD. Yes.

Mr. MACHEN. For the full year it would have been more than the \$117,000.

Mr. LOUD. Would it not have covered \$600,000 or \$700,000—your proposed cut?

Mr. MACHEN. For a full year not over \$300,000; we would have to make up the amount on the pro rata salary for five months.

Mr. LOUD. Five months would have given \$250,000 or \$300,000 to meet a deficiency of \$72,000?

Mr. MACHEN. I beg to differ. I can show by the figures. To make up the deficiency in salary account, we would have had to reduce the force 285 one thousand dollar men from February 1, 1898, or 335 eight hundred and fifty, or 355 eight hundred, or 474 six hundred dollar men.

Mr. LOUD. I hope they will be submitted and no towns will be omitted. Now I find here, strange as it may appear, in this deficiency, which has been given out as wholly for salary of letter carriers, or deficiency of same throughout the country, a large deficiency on incidental expense account. We gave you \$60,000 for incidental expenses.

Mr. MACHEN. Yes, sir.

Mr. LOUD. And you have expended in six months \$107,328.26; hence, \$61,628.20 of this deficiency is for incidental expenses?

Mr. MACHEN. Yes, sir.

Mr. LOUD. Now, is it not well for us to go further and see what has been done in that direction. We gave you for the fiscal year 1897 for all of this service, including your Detroit marine free-delivery service, and these posts, pedestals, and everything, \$63,950. Then you came to us and asked us to transfer \$35,000—

Mr. MACHEN. Twenty-three thousand dollars.

Mr. LOUD. Twenty-three thousand dollars of that money to the payment of regular carriers' salaries, so for that year you only used \$40,000. Now, in your hearing a year ago Mr. Jones and yourself both said if we would consolidate all these items into one and call them "incidental items" that you could get along with a great deal less money than you could if we segregated it; and we did consolidate all of these different items which here embrace the marine free delivery at Detroit, Mich., letter boxes, package boxes, and everything connected with the incidental expense, and gave you \$60,000 where you asked for \$75,000. In view of the fact you said you could get along with a good deal less money we cut it down to that amount, and yet within six months you have spent \$107,000?

Mr. MACHEN. In the first place, the recommendation Mr. Jones and myself made to you referred to the entire appropriation, which we wanted as a lump sum appropriation.

Mr. LOUD. It referred to this item.

Mr. MACHEN. Free-delivery appropriations were always in lump sums prior to that year. My recollection of the matter is that we amended our original estimate for incidentals to \$90,000.

Mr. LOUD. There is nothing in print or writing to demonstrate that?

Mr. MACHEN. The bill, as it came back from the Senate, will show \$90,000 for incidentals, and then in the conference committee it was cut down to \$60,000. Last year we had, as Mr. Loud stated, \$63,500 for incidentals, of which \$25,000 was for letter boxes and package boxes. We bought no letter boxes or package boxes that year—

Mr. LOUD. Fifteen thousand four hundred dollars for letter boxes, posts, and pedestals.

Mr. MACHEN. We bought none.

Mr. LOUD. Fifteen thousand four hundred dollars was the amount given.

Mr. MACHEN. For package boxes and letter boxes?

Mr. LOUD. Package boxes, \$10,200.

Mr. MACHEN. Twenty-five thousand dollars altogether, in round figures. Of that amount about \$2,000 was expended for package boxes and letter boxes and \$23,000 transferred to letter-carriers' salary account. The boxes used during last year were the surplus boxes on hand at different post-offices, purchased under former appropriations. When this fiscal year began the requisitions of postmasters for letter boxes, package boxes, and other supplies were filled to meet the demands of the service under the appointment of five or six hundred additional letter carriers, the extension of the service to 55 or 60 offices, and to fill orders for boxes under the Postmaster-General's recent order, giving the postmasters at small offices the right to erect boxes at the railway stations for the accommodation of patrons. This year the requisitions of the postmasters for letter boxes alone amounted to about \$22,000 for established offices and between \$5,000 and \$6,000 for the full equipment at newly established offices. I have a little memorandum here which I would like read to the committee as to one item—the purchase of boxes for the last eight years. In 1891-92—

Mr. LOUD. I do not know what that has to do with the question I wanted to get at—you can get at that hereafter.

Mr. MACHEN. I want to show the necessity for purchasing these supplies.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, you asked him why it is, with an appropriation of \$60,000 for the whole year for incidental expenses or miscellaneous—if that is what you call it—he happened to expend \$107,000 in the first six months. Now, the query is, ought he not to be permitted to state fully the facts how he happened to expend that, and if it be necessary to go back to former years to show the condition of the property on hand or otherwise—I do not know anything about it—in fairness to him ought not he to tell the whole thing and ought not the information to come together as a statement? In other words, ought he not to show what facts are in his mind to justify the Department in making that expenditure, not by way of argument, but facts?

Mr. LOUD. I am willing to admit that that is the fact, and let him insert it in your record there. It is an immaterial point to this subject I am on now, but, so far as it relates to any question I might have asked, let him submit it and put it in record.

The CHAIRMAN. I have no objection to that.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. It seems to me, as he has gone so far in it, we ought to let him finish it.

Mr. MACHEN. What I want to say, Mr. Chairman, is that the appropriation for incidentals for the current year is in fact \$15,000 to \$20,000 less than the amount expended for the same items in the year 1891-92, and \$30,000 less than that for 1892-93; about \$15,000 less than 1893-94; \$60,000 less than 1894-95; \$40,000 less than 1895-96, and if the Department had purchased letter boxes and package boxes last year, \$3,500 less than the expenditures for 1896-97.

The CHAIRMAN. What I want is this. On the face of it that is rather a startling statement that with an appropriation of \$60,000 in the first six months \$107,000 was expended. Now, if in fact there is any justification for that—I do not care whether

you put it in now or submit it in a written statement, or correct it in the notes—but I would like to know why that was done?

Mr. MACHEN. I can explain that in a very few words. The requisitions for general supplies for the year are made July 1, and they are all filled on the estimate of postmasters, so that in fact this appropriation for the full year was expended in the first two months, and after that no other general supplies were purchased. Practically no supplies have been purchased (except those necessary to equip new offices) since September. No general supplies have been ordered for established offices since these requisitions of the postmasters were filled.

Mr. LOUD. What is your expenditure for boxes?

Mr. MACHEN. This year?

Mr. LOUD. For six months we are talking about?

Mr. MACHEN. Letter boxes supplied on requisition of postmasters at established offices and furnished by Department in equipping new offices for the full fiscal year, \$28,995.30.

Mr. LOUD. That is a long way from \$107,000?

Mr. MACHEN. This is only one of the items that make up the free-delivery supplies.

Mr. LOUD. You painted every box in the country?

Mr. MACHEN. No; we have not painted every box in the country.

Mr. LOUD. Well, substantially.

Mr. MACHEN. Letter-carriers' satchels is another item. I made an itemized statement and submitted it to the committee two months ago.

The CHAIRMAN. I want you to state it in this hearing, because these hearings are to be printed. I want it stated just as briefly as you can do it now, or hereafter insert it, what the expenditure of that \$107,000 was for.

Mr. MACHEN. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. And, briefly, the necessity for that expenditure—not so brief but what you cover the actual facts. I do not want a great long record, but I want it briefly put in. You can do it at your leisure, when you correct this proof or when you write your letter; I do not care how you fix it.

Mr. MACHEN. I would like to make the statement, because there are two or three items here which the Department was not required to purchase in past years. Take, for instance, the item for letter-box posts. This year we have spent \$4,217 for posts, at \$1.20 each (under the former contract at \$2.59). Five or six years ago the Department was never called upon to buy letter-box posts, because it made free to attach its boxes to lamp-posts, telegraph poles, etc. Now in the large cities, and in many small ones, where electric lights have taken the place of gas and underground conduits the place of telegraph and electric-light poles, the Government has to furnish its own posts. Then here is an item of \$3,500 for free-delivery marine service at Detroit, which did not appear prior to 1895.

The expenses of commissioners of the Court of Claims and of their clerks investigating letter-carriers' overtime claims is an item only recently charged to the free-delivery appropriation. This was done on an agreement with the Department of Justice to expedite a fair settlement of a vast number of letter-carriers' overtime claims which had accumulated since 1888.

Mr. LOUD. What is the necessity of going away back over those years and skip those two years which are recent and pertinent—the very two?

Mr. MACHEN. If we make no purchase of supplies one year we will have to buy them the next year. That is the problem we were confronted with under this appropriation.

Mr. LOUD. Now, do I understand that is the difference between the expenditures for the current year and the expenditures for the last fiscal year?

Mr. MACHEN. Yes, sir.

Mr. SAYERS. Did you advise the Committee on the Post-Office and Post-Roads of the necessity of an extra large purchase of supplies for this fiscal year?

Mr. MACHEN. When the \$23,000 was transferred to salary account, I think it was advised if we purchased no boxes last year we certainly would have to fill requisitions this year. I know that statement was made to the committee of the Senate. That is the reason that committee put the appropriation up to \$90,000.

Mr. LOUD. Was not your estimate, \$75,000, your revised estimate; and the first estimate, \$60,000, which we gave you?

Mr. MACHEN. No, sir; my original estimate was \$75,000, and then my recollection of it is that it was revised to \$90,000. You showed me a letter in which the \$90,000 was changed in ink to \$75,000.

Mr. LOUD. You saw the change. I do not know what it was changed from.

Mr. MACHEN. It was changed in our office, I suppose.

Mr. LOUD. That came here in that shape.

Mr. MACHEN. But the Senate increased it to \$90,000, and then the conference committee cut it down again to \$60,000.

Mr. LOUD. That I do not know anything about.

Mr. MACHEN. The Senate report will show it.

Mr. LOUD. What I would like to impress upon the minds of the committee is, and I want to impress it upon the minds of Congress, that the question involved here is perhaps of some importance. Was there anything expended on this incidental account that could not have waited until the first of December—until Congress met—that Congress might take into consideration the subject of whether they wanted to appropriate this money for this purpose or not? I am speaking of the incidental account now.

Mr. MACHEN. Well, I suppose we could have put off the purchase of all supplies until Congress convened.

Mr. LOUD. You had \$60,000?

Mr. MACHEN. But the thought never struck the Department. We filled requisitions the same as we do every year, and cutting them down to what we thought was fair.

Mr. LOUD. Your requisitions only covered, according to your own figures, \$28,000.

Mr. MACHEN. For one item—letter boxes. Here are package boxes, posts, carriers' satchels, collectors' satchels, etc., which have to be included.

Mr. LOUD. How much does that amount to?

Mr. MACHEN. \$107,328.20, itemized as follows:

Incidentals.

Letter boxes supplied on requisition of postmasters at established offices and furnished by Department in equipping new offices, for full fiscal year.....	\$28,895.30
Package boxes supplied on requisition of postmasters for full fiscal year.....	11,001.80
Letter-box posts supplied on requisition of postmasters, for full fiscal year.....	4,217.00
Letter carriers' satchels on requisition of postmasters, for full fiscal year.....	13,883.73
Letter carriers' straps on requisition of postmasters, for full fiscal year..	13,181.77
Furniture at new offices.....	3,049.65
Time cards for street letter boxes, on requisition of postmasters	1,461.13
City directories for use of letter carriers, supplied on requisition of postmasters.....	3,604.00
Supplies for time clocks, requisition of postmasters.....	2,061.30
Freight and drayage on street letter boxes, package boxes, and posts....	4,815.24
Erecting, painting, and repairing letter boxes and package boxes, planting posts, placing time cards, including material and labor, at various post-offices	14,680.50
Expenses of commissioners of the Court of Claims and their clerks in investigating letter carriers' overtime claims	1,414.00
All other miscellaneous expenditures, including frames for time cards, expressage, toll for letter carriers, gongs, mimeograph paper, advertising of contract service in Philadelphia, key checks, baskets, lanterns, railroad fare of substitutes from Brooklyn to Atlantic City, tools, advertising collection service, repairs to wagons, storage on furniture, printing at local offices, and fasteners and bands for street letter boxes, on requisition of postmasters.....	5,062.78
Total	107,328.20

Mr. LOUD. I do not doubt but what the money has been expended, and there is also no doubt that some of this could have awaited until you could have determined whether Congress wanted to appropriate this or not. You were going on at a pretty steep pace?

Mr. MACHEN. Not compared with the past.

Mr. LOUD. I say yes. I say you only used \$40,000 the year preceding, and the year preceding that you used \$63,000.

Mr. MACHEN. Last year we used \$44,121.47, including mechanics and Detroit marine service, and you understand we bought no satchels, no letter boxes, no package boxes, etc., during that year. The year preceding that, or 1895-96, we spent for incidentals \$103,666.35.

Mr. LOUD. Why could you not have waited six months longer to find out whether Congress wanted to appropriate the money?

Mr. MACHEN. Because we can not establish the service and extend the same at offices consolidated without extending the collection service which takes these supplies.

Mr. LOUD. It is a pretty big extension in one year?

Mr. MACHEN. I can name one new office in which we had to erect 100 letter boxes—

Mr. SAYERS. Where was that?

Mr. MACHEN. In Newton, Mass., where we consolidated nine or ten offices into one.

Mr. SAYERS. Did that consolidation bring about a reduction in the general expenses or not?

Mr. MACHEN. I am not prepared to say, because the reductions would be in postmasters' salaries, and I do not have those accounts.

Mr. SAYERS. I mean to take everything into consideration?

Mr. MACHEN. No; I think the consolidation of offices and extension of the free delivery services increase the net cost to the Government.

The CHAIRMAN. Does the consolidation give better service?

Mr. MACHEN. Yes, sir. I think in the Newton case the saving of messenger service and postmasters' salaries about equal the cost of carriers and clerks, for the first year at least, when carriers receive the minimum salary, \$600.

Mr. LOUD. I want to suggest to the committee here, perhaps it is not pertinent to this appropriation, but you have increased by 564 carriers according to your report for the fiscal year 1897, and the same increase permeates the whole Department really, and the receipts of the Department, which is the best indication of the business, did not increase \$100,000 for the whole year?

Mr. MACHEN. For the present year to June 30, 1898, the increase will be \$7,500,000, or about 9 per cent; that is, up to the 1st of July, 1897.

Mr. LOUD. For the fiscal year 1897, and the necessity that they urge now that there was a great demand the minute business picked up is perfectly absurd, because a number of years when there was no increase of business you still increased your carrier force.

Mr. MACHEN. The cost of the carrier service is increasing steadily—

Mr. LOUD. I am not speaking about the cost, but the number of carriers; 564 you increased for the fiscal year 1897.

Mr. MACHEN. The additional carriers appointed from 1891 to 1897-98, taking the estimate 640 for this year, are 4,405, an average of something like 550 carriers a year for eight years. In 1890-91, when there were only 539 offices, the increase in carrier force was 964. In 1891-92, with 568 offices, it was 607. In 1892-93, with 610 offices, it was 888. In 1893-94 only 111, and in 1894-95 the increase was 978; 1895-96, 120. In 1896-97 only 97; and in 1897-98, 640.

Mr. LOUD. Your figures do not agree with your report.

Mr. MACHEN. Here are the figures right here in the tabular statement in beginning of report, and you can figure it out for yourself.

Mr. LOUD. I do not care about those figures; I will take your figures here. Here is your report, or the First Assistant's report. You report 12,950 carriers in this report for 1896, and in your report for 1897 you report 13,514, which is 564 increase, and the great trouble is your documents do not agree.

Mr. MACHEN. What is that?

Mr. LOUD. You report the carriers in the service on the 1st of July for the fiscal year 1896 at 12,950.

Mr. MACHEN. The fact is we had 12,931. What you refer to is an estimate.

Mr. LOUD. It was made after the 1st of July, and you ought to have been able to know how many carriers you had.

Mr. MACHEN. I say that when that report was made, in fall of 1896, it was estimated that on July 1, 1897, we would have 12,950 carriers in the service. On July 1, 1897, we found 12,931 carriers in the service, so the actual number was 20 under my estimate. Now, my estimate made to you for 1899 shows that by the first of the next fiscal year, July 1, 1898, I will have 13,514 letter carriers. Now, the fact is that to-day we have in actual service 13,588, and that is the reason I amended my estimate in a letter to you on January 4, calling for 13,588 instead of 13,514. The annual increase shown in this table in the beginning of the report of the First Assistant Postmaster-General are figures based upon facts as they appeared. Those to which you refer are the estimates.

POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE FIRST ASSISTANT POSTMASTER-GENERAL,
Washington, D. C., March 16, 1898.

Hon. J. G. CANNON,

Chairman Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives.

SIR: Complying with your request, I beg leave to submit as briefly as possible a statement showing the necessity of creating the deficiency in the free-delivery appropriation which the Department now asks Congress to provide for.

In the first place, every allowance made for the appointment of additional letter carriers was deemed necessary by this office to maintain the service up to its present

standard and efficiency, and to prevent the regular force making overtime, for which at some future day they could file claims against the Government. Every case was carefully scrutinized before an allowance was made. In most cases reports of post-office inspectors are on file urging increases in the carrier force. The following list shows the offices for which allowances were made, showing the number of additional carriers for each office:

Office.	Carriers.	Office.	Carriers.
Anderson, Ind.	1	Mankato, Minn.	1
Ansonia, Conn.	1	Mount Vernon, N. Y.	1
Amherst, Mass.	1	Melrose, Mass.	3
Atlanta, Ga.	2	Muncie, Ind.	1
Attleboro, Mass.	1	Marietta, Ohio.	1
Albany, N. Y.	1	Marion, Ohio.	1
Altoona, Pa.	1	Mason City, Iowa.	1
Austin, Tex.	1	Meridian, Miss.	1
Buffalo, N. Y.	9	Nashville, Tenn.	1
Boston, Mass.	45	New York, N. Y.	40
Brockton, Mass.	2	New Haven, Conn.	1
Baltimore, Md.	10	Newton, Kans.	1
Beaver Falls, Pa.	2	New Britain, Conn.	1
Bridgeport, Conn.	3	Newport, R. I.	1
Chicago, Ill.	52	Niagara Falls, N. Y.	1
Canton, Ohio.	3	Newcastle, Pa.	1
Columbia, S. C.	2	Omaha, Nebr.	5
Columbus, Ohio.	2	Oil City, Pa.	1
Cincinnati, Ohio.	11	Oakpark, Ill.	1
Cleveland, Ohio.	10	Oakland, Cal.	1
Charleston, W. Va.	1	Philadelphia, Pa.	a 50
Dayton, Ohio.	1	Portland, Me.	2
Denver, Colo.	4	Poughkeepsie, N. Y.	1
Dubuois, Pa.	2	Pittsburg, Pa.	14
Danville, Ill.	1	Pawtucket, R. I.	4
Detroit, Mich.	8	Pontiac, Mich.	1
Englewood, N. J.	1	Parkersburg, W. Va.	1
Evansville, Ind.	1	Passaic, N. J.	2
Evanston, Ill.	3	Richmond, Va.	2
Everett, Mass.	1	Rochester, N. Y.	5
Elizabeth, N. J.	1	Reading, Pa.	2
East Orange, N. J.	1	Rochester, Minn.	1
Fitchburg, Mass.	3	Roanoke, Va.	1
Fort Dodge, Iowa.	1	Shelbyville, Ind.	1
Fostoria, Ohio.	1	South Norwalk, Conn.	2
Frankfort, Ky.	1	Stockton, Cal.	3
Fall River, Mass.	1	San Jose, Cal.	1
Fargo, N. Dak.	2	St. Paul, Minn.	10
Greenfield, Mass.	1	San Diego, Cal.	2
Galesburg, Ill.	1	South Omaha, Nebr.	1
Hagerstown, Md.	1	Scranton, Pa.	3
Holyoke, Mass.	1	Seattle, Wash.	2
Hartford, Conn.	2	Salt Lake City, Utah	1
Hackensack, N. J.	1	Spokane, Wash.	5
Hydelpark, Mass.	2	Toledo, Ohio.	4
Indianapolis, Ind.	15	Tyrone, Pa.	2
Jackson, Mich.	2	Urbana, Ohio.	1
Johnstown, N. Y.	1	Washington, D. C.	12
Kansas City, Mo.	7	Woburn, Mass.	1
Keokuk, Iowa.	1	Washington, Pa.	1
Kansas City, Kans.	1	Westfield, Mass.	2
Long Island City, N. Y.	1	Wilmington, Del.	2
Los Angeles, Cal.	8	Woonsocket, R. I.	2
Leominster, Mass.	2	Wilkesbarre, Pa.	2
Louisville, Ky.	4	West Chester, Pa.	1
Memphis, Tenn.	4	Waterbury, Conn.	2
Minneapolis, Minn.	12	Wheeling, W. Va.	1
Muscatine, Iowa.	1	Wakefield, Mass.	1
McKeesport, Pa.	1	Worcester, Mass.	10
Medford, Mass.	1	Yonkers, N. Y.	1
Meriden, Conn.	1	York, Pa.	1
Manchester, N. H.	2		

a Philadelphia still has 50 carriers less than it had two years ago, the service having been reduced 100 carriers in 1895.

The Department felt that the actual needs of the service should be met, even if a deficiency were created, and believed that there would be no trouble in having a deficiency provided for. When it was intimated early in January that the Department should meet the deficiency by making reductions of force in certain large offices, steps were at once taken by this office to wipe out the deficiency as far as possible. It was decided to cut the number of deliveries in four of the largest cities

and to withdraw from other cities the allowances that had been made under the appropriation for the current year. Accordingly, the following letter was prepared:

JANUARY 15, 1898.

POSTMASTER ————:

SIR: The time has arrived when it becomes absolutely necessary for the Department to devise ways and means to avoid an anticipated deficiency of about \$150,000 in the free-delivery service during the remainder of this fiscal year, as it is not at all certain that Congress will provide for it.

It appears from our records that ———— additional letter carriers were allowed your office during the current fiscal year. In order that ———— may help in taking care of the deficiency, I have to request that you reduce your force by the number allowed during the current year. This may be done by reducing the number of deliveries in the residential portions one, making four deliveries three, and three two. Please take steps to carry out this arrangement by February 1, 1898.

Very respectfully,

First Assistant Postmaster-General.

It was mailed to the following offices, the number opposite each office indicating the additional allowances that had been made and which now the Department proposed to withdraw:

Office.	Carriers.	Office.	Carriers.
Albany, N. Y.	1	Mason City, Iowa.	1
Baltimore, Md.	10	Memphis, Tenn.	4
Bridgeport, Conn.	2	New Britain, Conn.	1
Buffalo, N. Y.	9	New Haven, Conn.	1
Cincinnati, Ohio.	11	Newport, R. I.	2
Cleveland, Ohio.	10	Oak Park, Ill.	1
Columbus, Ohio.	2	Omaha, Nebr.	2
Columbia, S. C.	2	Pittsburg, Pa.	14
Charleston, W. Va.	1	Portland, Me.	2
Canton, Ohio.	3	Pawtucket, R. I.	4
Detroit, Mich.	8	Pontiac, Mich.	1
Danville, Ill.	1	Reading, Pa.	2
Dayton, Ohio.	1	Rochester, N. Y.	5
Evanston, Ill.	3	Rock Island, Ill.	1
Fall River, Mass.	1	Richmond, Va.	2
Fort Dodge, Iowa.	1	St. Paul, Minn.	10
Fitchburg, Mass.	3	Stockton, Cal.	3
Hyde Park, Mass.	2	Toledo, Ohio.	4
Hartford, Conn.	2	Washington, D. C.	12
Jackson, Mich.	2	Worcester, Mass.	10
Keokuk, Iowa.	1	Wakefield, Mass.	1
Kansas City, Kans.	1	Woonsocket, R. I.	2
Kansas City, Mo.	6	Wheeling, W. Va.	1
Leominster, Mass.	2	Wilkesbarre, Pa.	2
Minneapolis, Minn.	12	Westfield, Mass.	2
Muscatine, Iowa.	1	Wilmington, Del.	2

In the case of San Francisco, the following telegram, which explains itself, was sent:

"JANUARY 17, 1898.

"POSTMASTER, San Francisco, Cal.:

"Necessary to avoid anticipated deficiency of about one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, free-delivery service. In 1896 agents of Department recommended reduction your force thirty carriers without impairing service. This estimate has been confirmed by unofficial opinions of local inspectors. You will proceed at once to so rearrange your service and redistribute force as to reduce it as many carriers as possible, to take effect February 1."

The following statement shows the number of carriers that it was proposed to take out of the service from February 1, 1898, the aggregate salary from that date to July 1 about equaling the amount of the deficiency in salary account:

At various offices, as per above lists	190
San Francisco	30
New York, Boston, Brooklyn, Philadelphia, and Chicago, about	250
Total	470

Inasmuch as the reductions would consist of the carriers recently appointed and therefore in the \$600 grade, you will see that it would have been necessary for the

Department to reduce the number indicated (470) in order to make up the deficiency. The reductions in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and Brooklyn would have been made by reducing the number of deliveries at those offices.

On urgent requests made to the Department, it decided to suspend the instructions contained in the letter of January 15, and accordingly the following was sent to the offices which had received the first letter:

JANUARY 24, 1898.

POSTMASTER, ———— :

SIR: Do not put into effect, until further notice, instructions contained in my letter of the 15th instant, ordering a reduction of the carrier force at your office, but submit to me a full statement of what saving can be effected on the lines suggested in said letter.

Very respectfully,

—————,
First Assistant Postmaster-General.

INCIDENTALS.

The itemized statement of incidental expenditures which I submitted to your committee the other day aggregates \$107,328.20, as against an available balance of the appropriation of \$45,700, the allowances for mechanics (\$10,800) and Detroit marine service (\$3,500), a total of \$14,300, fixed charges, being deducted from the appropriation of \$60,000, and leaving a net deficiency to date of \$61,628.20. Adding the estimated expenditure of \$6,000 from January until July 1, 1898, to meet the incidental expenditures at various offices, makes the total deficiency \$67,628.20.

All supplies are ordered on the requisition of postmasters. These requisitions are made at the beginning of the fiscal year, and all general supplies for a full year are then purchased, so that the expenditure of \$107,000 made within the first four or five months of the fiscal year represents in fact the expenditures for the full fiscal year. The requisitions of the postmasters are carefully examined and cut by the Department to an amount which it deems necessary to meet the actual needs of the service. Owing to the fact that during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1897, no letter boxes or package boxes were purchased (funds for that purpose—\$23,000—having been transferred to the salary account) and only a few other supplies were purchased, it became necessary for the Department to fill the requisitions made during the current year. That these expenditures have not been extravagant will appear from the subjoined comparative statement, showing the expenditures for incidentals during the past seven or eight years. I make the figures in even dollars.

1891-92.....	\$59, 200	1894-95.....	\$137, 000
1892-93.....	71, 200	1895-96.....	103, 700
1893-94.....	54, 000	1896-97.....	44, 000

Since 1891 the number of free-delivery offices has increased about 25 per cent, while the number of carriers about 34 per cent. Then, in years prior to 1894, items aggregating \$25,000 a year in expenditures since 1894 (excepting 1897) did not enter into the expenditures on account of free-delivery service. I refer to package boxes, Detroit marine service, and the expenses of the commissioners of the Court of Claims, who investigate and adjudicate letter carriers' overtime claims. Add these items, aggregating about \$25,000, to the expenses of 1892, 1893, and 1894, and you will find that the expenditures for those years exceed the appropriation for the current fiscal year by from \$20,000 to \$40,000.

During the current year we have established the service at 50 offices, for which full equipment of supplies had to be made. While \$90,000 of the appropriation was set aside for the salaries of carriers at newly established free-delivery offices, no special appropriation was made for the supplies that would be required at those offices, and the same were provided from the regular appropriation for incidentals.

In closing this statement I desire to direct the committee's attention to the statement showing the percentage of increase in the expenditures on account of the free-delivery service from year to year during the past decade:

	Per cent.
1888-89, increase over preceding year	28.3
1889-90, increase over preceding year	14.6
1890-91, increase over preceding year	13.7
1891-92, increase over preceding year	9.9
1892-93, increase over preceding year	7.0
1893-94, increase over preceding year	5.1
1894-95, increase over preceding year	8.0
1895-96, increase over preceding year	4.7
1896-97, increase over preceding year .....	.9
1897-98 (current year), increase over preceding year, including \$163,000 for which appropriation is requested.....	4.4

This shows an increase for the current year of only 4.4 per cent, as against an average for ten years of 9.6 per cent.

The percentage of increase in the number of carriers during the same period is as follows:

	Per cent.
1888-89, increase over preceding year	30.1
1889-90, increase over preceding year	9.7
1890-91, increase over preceding year	11.7
1891-92, increase over preceding year	5.8
1892-93, increase over preceding year	8.2
1893-94, increase over preceding year .....	.9
1894-95, increase over preceding year	8.2
1895-96, increase over preceding year .....	.9
1896-97, increase over preceding year .....	.7
1897-98, increase over preceding year	5.0

This shows the increase for the current year at 5 per cent, while the average for the past ten years was 8.1 per cent.

Very respectfully,

AUGUST W. MACHEN,
Superintendent.

Mr. LOUD. That is all I have, Mr. Chairman.

TUESDAY, March 15, 1898.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

BOARD OF CHILDREN'S GUARDIANS.

STATEMENT OF MR. HERBERT A. LEWIS, SUPERINTENDENT OF CHARITIES.

THE CHAIRMAN. Is there anything in addition you have to say touching this deficiency for the Board of Children's Guardians that is not stated in your letter of March 10 and in the statement of Mr. Petty the other day before this committee?

MR. LEWIS. I do not think, Mr. Chairman, there is anything to be said in addition to what I stated in my letter of March 10. I only wish it to be thoroughly understood there is no escape from this deficiency, that the board has no control over the number of children which it will receive, and that the number has risen sharply throughout the present fiscal year and the latter part of the last fiscal year, being now nearly 100 children in excess of the average number of the last year, and there is no way to do this work except with an appropriation. There is no other resource, as this is strictly a public agency.

THE CHAIRMAN. Now, why should you have a hundred children more than you had last year?

MR. LEWIS. Well, all the time, up until a year ago in January, the number of children retained and expense of maintenance have been kept down by reason of the activity of the board in placing these children out.

THE CHAIRMAN. Why has not your board been active in placing them out this year?

MR. LEWIS. Because we had not the money to do it with. We appealed to Congress, and you gave \$2,000 additional for administrative expenses—

THE CHAIRMAN. Was there any appropriation available?

MR. LEWIS. Four thousand dollars, which was not sufficient.

THE CHAIRMAN. Have you expended the whole of that \$4,000?

MR. LEWIS. Not quite. The whole of it was expended for the last fiscal year.

THE CHAIRMAN. To how many people is this \$4,000 paid for administrative expenses and at what salaries?

MR. LEWIS. There are three persons employed by the Board. There is one agent, at a salary of \$1,200, one chief clerk, at a salary of \$1,200, and a stenographer and typewriter, at \$40 a month; and the balance of the money is expended for traveling expenses for the agent who supervises the children who are placed out and scattered about, for rent of offices, and all sundries.

THE CHAIRMAN. For rent of what offices?

MR. LEWIS. For those occupied by the Board.

THE CHAIRMAN. Where are those offices?

MR. LEWIS. The Board is occupying two rooms in the Gunton Building, at 472 Louisiana avenue.

THE CHAIRMAN. What rent do you pay?

Mr. LEWIS. Thirty dollars a month.

The CHAIRMAN. You ask for a deficiency of administration in this letter—

Mr. LEWIS. Of \$600.

The CHAIRMAN. For the remainder of the fiscal year, \$600. What would you do with that \$600 if Congress appropriated it?

Mr. LEWIS. It would be expended for traveling expenses for the agent who desires to visit and supervise the children already placed out and for the finding of additional homes for those under expense for maintenance.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that finding of additional homes by travel, or do you do it by letter—by correspondence?

Mr. LEWIS. It is done both ways; but the best work is done by personal contact with the people who will take these children.

The CHAIRMAN. How many of those children have you now on hand that it is practical to place in homes?

Mr. LEWIS. There are 223 children now held on expense for maintenance. I think I am perfectly safe in saying that within four months half of them can be placed in free homes.

The CHAIRMAN. Half of 223?

Mr. LEWIS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, do the 223 include feeble minded?

Mr. LEWIS. No.

The CHAIRMAN. And in four months, if this \$600 is appropriated, you are satisfied you can place, by the end of this fiscal year, half of them in homes?

Mr. LEWIS. Well, this \$600 will not, because it will not become available four months before the end of the fiscal year, in addition to the \$4,000 standing appropriation, and I do not think it will be possible to put the administrative work on a basis to take care of the children in free homes as rapidly as that before the close of this year; but the appropriation proposed for 1899 makes a substantial increase in the appropriation for administrative purposes.

The CHAIRMAN. What bill carries that?

Mr. LEWIS. The District bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that recommended in the District bill?

Mr. LEWIS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Did it pass as you wanted it there?

Mr. LEWIS. It did not pass quite as we wanted it, but we will do the best we can with it. It is only \$500 short of the amount desired.

The CHAIRMAN. How much does the District bill carry?

Mr. LEWIS. Six thousand dollars, as amended by the Senate.

The CHAIRMAN. As against \$4,000?

Mr. LEWIS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Suppose you knew you were going to get this \$600 in this bill, could you not go to work at once?

Mr. LEWIS. Yes, sir; it is precisely what we propose to do.

The CHAIRMAN. Let us see. There is about one-third of the year left. The expenditure for the last third of the year, if you had the money to do it, would be something near the rate it is contemplated for the whole of next year?

Mr. LEWIS. Yes, sir; it would not be up to it.

The CHAIRMAN. But something near that. It seems to me, if it meets with Brother Sayers's approval, that this administrative item had better go into the bill. Of course I do not know what the Senate may do, but I suppose it will be done. In other words, these people ought to be placed in homes. Where they are placed in homes, does that relieve you substantially from the expense of maintaining them?

Mr. LEWIS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Of course you have got to keep general supervision over them?

Mr. LEWIS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Which entails some expense?

Mr. LEWIS. Let me say right here, for fear it escapes me, that there is a little deficiency from the year 1897 outstanding which is proposed to take up out of this \$600. It is a little under \$20, and we want an administrative deficiency of \$600 to carry both 1897 and 1898, so we can pay this little amount.

The CHAIRMAN. How much is that?

Mr. LEWIS. It is \$17 and something; under \$20.

The CHAIRMAN. You had better make them separate.

Mr. LEWIS. It is that much short—that amount is due to the landlord who owns the offices the board occupies.

The CHAIRMAN. In looking over this statement I see you have 42 feeble-minded children.

Mr. LEWIS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. And they are cared for at an expense of—

Mr. LEWIS. \$8,675.

The CHAIRMAN. That is how much per annum? Pennsylvania Training School, 28 at \$225 per annum. Is that right?

Mr. LEWIS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Three at \$100 per annum. Is that at the same place?

Mr. LEWIS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Virginia Training School, 2 at \$250 per annum, and 7 at \$225 per annum. Is that about the average rate throughout the country for such service?

Mr. LEWIS. Two hundred and fifty dollars is an exceptionally high rate. That is the rate that was paid by the Department of the Interior before this matter was placed under the Board of Children's Guardians, and at the end of the second year in which the board managed the matter it secured the reduction of a maximum rate paid the Pennsylvania institution to \$225, and has been able to place all, with the exception of two or three, since that time at \$225.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that a reasonable rate?

Mr. LEWIS. I think it is. The per capita expense for the Government Hospital for the Insane here is \$220, and these children require fully as much care and attention and expensive appliances as the insane do.

The CHAIRMAN. House of the Good Shepherd, Baltimore, 5 at \$100 per annum, and the House of the Good Shepherd, Washington, 2 at \$96 per annum. Those are adults; they are not children, are they?

Mr. LEWIS. They are girls who were under 16 years of age at the time of the commitment to the Board of Children's Guardians.

The CHAIRMAN. They were committed by the court?

Mr. LEWIS. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. How long are they kept after they are 16 years old?

Mr. LEWIS. Well, they may be retained for any length of time.

The CHAIRMAN. Is the sentence an indefinite one?

Mr. LEWIS. It is a commitment to the Board of Children's Guardians during minority.

The CHAIRMAN. What do you call minority; 18 years?

Mr. LEWIS. Twenty-one years. Of course, it is not the policy of the Board of Children's Guardians to retain these girls in the institutions after it is safe to transfer them elsewhere, and the trial is made from time to time with each individual, and frequently it is successful and frequently it is not. They sometimes have to go back.

The CHAIRMAN. And I see the Industrial Home School, 32 at \$123. That is the Industrial Home School here?

Mr. LEWIS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. It is a District institution—I mean, a public institution?

Mr. LEWIS. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. The Hart farm school, 11 at \$195 per annum?

Mr. LEWIS. That is a farm down on the Potomac, near Fort Washington.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that a private enterprise?

Mr. LEWIS. Yes, sir; I might say, in regard to that matter, the board has been at great loss to know what to do with colored boys of 10 years old and upward ever since its organization. The only institution in the District which was conducted exclusively for colored children being the National Association for the Relief of Destitute Women and Children, it could not receive these boys over 10 years of age for the reason it had no facilities for dealing with them. We have boys coming from the street who were bad and who never had any training. We then tried to send them to country homes, to persons who wanted them to work immediately upon their reception, and that was pretty generally a failure, for the reason the boys never had any training and did not know how to do anything, and did not want to do anything, and until very recently there has been no place, actually no place, where boys of that kind could be sent and be given a course of training preparatory to their transfer to a free home. Within a few months Mr. Hart, who is connected with the Howard University, has offered to make an arrangement with the board by which he will take those boys down there, train them, clothe them, feed them, and teach them under supervision, and to the satisfaction of the board, at the rate indicated there, until the number shall reach 25. When it shall have reached 25 it is to be reduced, and when it reaches 50 it is to be again reduced.

The CHAIRMAN. Are those the only children he has?

Mr. LEWIS. These are all there, except one or two he has taken out of pure pity at his own expense.

The CHAIRMAN. This includes everything, clothing and all subsistence, this \$195 a year?

Mr. LEWIS. It includes everything.

The CHAIRMAN. St. Mary's Industrial School, Baltimore; what is that, that I see you have one at \$100 per annum.

Mr. LEWIS. That is an industrial school for boys who can not be managed at other

places, and the one boy who is there now was committed to the board, 15 years of age, a great big, incorrigible fellow, and there was no institution in the District to which he could be sent, and accordingly he was sent over there. He might have been committed to the Reform School.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, you have 42 in boarding homes at \$120 per annum, 32 at \$108 per annum, 59 at \$96 per annum, 6 at \$84 per annum, and 1 at \$60 per annum. Now, is this the class of people you anticipate you will have to find homes for?

Mr. LEWIS. They are much the same class of people, but they are not the same people. There are many people who receive children as members of their family, and take them either as objects of affection, or for farm or household workers, and maintain them solely at their own expense; not only so, but enter into contract to pay the child a stated sum when it reaches the age of 18. On the other hand, it is better in many instances to make an arrangement to place children in a private family and pay board for them than to place them in an institution and pay board for them.

The CHAIRMAN. You have 140 in boarding homes?

Mr. LEWIS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. They range from what age; what is the average age?

Mr. LEWIS. They are from infants up to about 8 years of age?

The CHAIRMAN. Do you anticipate that that kind of service is to be permanent? If you had your administrative fund as much as you want, is it practical to take these infants and people up to 8 years of age and find them homes?

Mr. LEWIS. Many of these children who are now retained in boarding homes will be transferred to free homes, and their places will be taken by others who will be continually committed to the board, and although I think the number will be reduced, I do not think any sort of activity or efficiency of administration can or ought to supersede that work.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that satisfactory work, the boarding homes?

Mr. LEWIS. Very satisfactory, indeed.

The CHAIRMAN. Where are they located, substantially in Washington?

Mr. LEWIS. Mostly in the District; a few in the adjoining counties of Maryland and Virginia.

The CHAIRMAN. And you are able to keep supervision over them?

Mr. LEWIS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. That is the business of your agent, I suppose?

Mr. LEWIS. That is a part of the business of the agent, along with the placing and supervision of children in free homes.

The CHAIRMAN. So that this increase you have here in your letter of March 10 it would rather look as though there was no discretion about it. You want a maintenance fund of \$6,702.50 and an administration fund of \$600 besides that. Right here I see "for administrative expenses (transportation only) \$600." What do you mean by that?

Mr. LEWIS. That indicates that the agent wishes to use it solely for traveling expenses, but it is not necessary to so restrict it by any means.

The CHAIRMAN. It is not; and it is my impression you had better do a little less visiting and a little more placing of these people in homes.

Mr. LEWIS. There can be no objection to striking out "for transportation only;" no objection whatever.

The CHAIRMAN. What you want is that \$600, and then you want for maintenance, \$6,702.50. That is what you are asking, as I understand in this letter?

Mr. LEWIS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. And that is all you ask?

Mr. LEWIS. Yes, sir; that is all.

STATEMENT OF MR. W. P. WOOD.

Mr. WOOD. I would like to say that two girls have been taken from the city, one 21 years old, and I think the other is nearly that, and one is in a house in Pennsylvania and the other in the insane asylum, and their brothers are here ready to take care of them, and every effort I could make has been denied by this board, and an inquiry upon that subject would satisfy you of that fact. One of these girls is used as a servant and held in a place for which the Government—

The CHAIRMAN. What is your full name?

Mr. WOOD. William P. Wood.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you live here in the District?

Mr. WOOD. I do.

The CHAIRMAN. What is your business?

Mr. WOOD. I am an advisory counsel, and I am the only man receiving of Edwin M. Stanton—

The CHAIRMAN. What is an advisory counsel? What does that mean?

Mr. WOOD. I advise people in trouble and help them out of it.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, I understand there have been two people committed by this Board of Children's Guardians?

Mr. WOOD. They are under their control; one is in the insane asylum and one in Pennsylvania.

The CHAIRMAN. Committed by judgment of the court?

Mr. WOOD. I do not know under what rule.

The CHAIRMAN. You have not looked into it?

Mr. WOOD. I endeavored to find out, but in this snap judgment they have taken—

The CHAIRMAN. Have you communicated with this board?

Mr. WOOD. I have communicated with them and it is impossible to remedy the defect. Their brothers have declared they are ready to take care of them, and that is all in writing and can be submitted to you. I did not come here for that purpose, but hearing this matter brought up I could not stand it.

The CHAIRMAN. You say one is insane?

Mr. WOOD. One is in the insane asylum and she is no more insane than I am.

The CHAIRMAN. Did you ever see her?

Mr. WOOD. Yes, sir; and she was no more—

The CHAIRMAN. You do not know whether she was committed by decree of the court?

Mr. WOOD. I think their father surrendered them at the time he was unable to provide for them; but one is, I think, over 21 years of age, and the other very near it.

The CHAIRMAN. Are you a lawyer?

Mr. WOOD. I practice, but I am not a member of the bar.

The CHAIRMAN. You never thought of suing for a writ of habeas corpus?

Mr. WOOD. No; I have not.

Mr. LEWIS. A good many years ago the father of these girls surrendered them to the Washington Orphan Asylum—the Washington City Protestant Orphan Asylum—a private institution which has never received assistance from the Government. These girls remained in the institution, one being, I think, 12 and the other 14 years old, according to my recollection. Application was then made to the Secretary of the Interior on their behalf, representing to him that they were feeble-minded, and the Secretary, upon examination and recommendation from Dr. Gallaudet, president of the Columbia Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, sent these girls to the Pennsylvania Institution for Feeble-minded Children. They remained there until after that work was transferred from the supervision of the Secretary of the Interior to the Board of Children's Guardians. The payment of their maintenance had been reduced from \$250, the maximum rate, to \$100, the minimum rate, because of their ability to do some work to contribute to their support. One of the girls is still in that institution under that arrangement, and is one of those mentioned in that communication to you as maintained there at \$100 per year. The other became unmanageable with the facilities of that institution and was returned here to the Board of Children's Guardians by an attendant from that asylum, and she was taken before a marshal's jury, in accordance with the law of the District, and declared insane and sent to the Government Hospital for the Insane.

The CHAIRMAN. That is over at St. Elizabeth's, and she is there now?

Mr. LEWIS. Yes, sir.

MARKET HOUSE CLAIMS.

STATEMENT OF MR. J. J. HEMPHILL.

Mr. Hemphill said:

Mr. Chairman, you no doubt will remember in January, 1896, there was a bill passed empowering the auditor of the supreme court of the District of Columbia to examine certain cases for damages growing out of the destruction of the Northern Liberty Market here—that was January 26, 1897—and during the extra session of Congress the bill which passed the previous session was amended, fixing more specifically the exact amount which the auditor should consider in making his findings, and he was to report his findings to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, who were directed, according to the deficiency act of that year, as follows:

"The auditor of the supreme court of the District of Columbia shall report said claims so far as allowed by him, but without any allowance for interest, to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, who shall, in case they approve said claims, report the same to Congress in their annual estimates for payment out of the revenues of the District of Columbia."

Now, it was at that time—

The CHAIRMAN. When was that enacted?

Mr. HEMPHILL. That was enacted July 19, 1897, at the end of the extra session of Congress, the last session. When the matter was up in the House, discussing it you made this statement, it being then the impression that the auditor would be able to complete his findings in order to get them here by last December, and Mr. Love asked you in reference to the matter and you replied to him:

"Oh, the market claims"—

Apparently not having understood him at first—

"They can be settled, in our judgment, by the 1st of December next by an outlay aggregating in amount perhaps \$150,000."

Now, it turns out during the summer the auditor had to have some vacation, and he went off, and the work was to some extent delayed by his absence and other causes for which he was not responsible at all, and he did not complete the work, but he has made his findings in 73 cases, aggregating altogether \$43,623, which is within the average amount it was expected would be the finding; in other words, if the balance of the cases which are to be found reach this sum, or about the proportionate sum, they will not exceed the amount originally stated would have to be appropriated.

The CHAIRMAN. One hundred and fifty thousand dollars?

Mr. HEMPHILL. Yes, sir. Now, I applied to the Commissioners in December to forward to your committee here, or to the Speaker, their report upon the 73 cases which had been found, and they, acknowledging my letter, quoted the act I have just read to you requiring that they were to send those up in their annual estimates, and say:

"Inasmuch as the annual estimate of 1899 is required by law to be submitted in the month of October, 1897, Congress knew, of course, it was physically impossible for the claims referred to to be adjudicated and reported to Congress in the annual estimate prepared in October, 1897—"

That is just directly in contravention to what Congress had in its mind at that time. They evidently had not read the record in citing this quotation from yourself. Then they say—

"Only a part of said claims have up to this date been adjudicated. The Commissioners construe the law to mean all cases to be adjudicated under said act are to be completed and reported in the estimates succeeding such adjudication."

They state, however, they held themselves in readiness to respond to any request of the Committee on Appropriations of either House to forward all claims so far adjudicated whenever such request shall have been made upon them. Now it is apparent, therefore, the only reason why those claims are not forwarded here for your action is because they construe that this law confines them strictly to sending it up here in their annual estimate, and inasmuch as those people have waited so long, and really some of them are so poor, and especially the older ones are rapidly dying off since this act was passed—it is either seven or ten I think have died, and one more yesterday, making eleven altogether—and there are a great many of them really poor beyond all conception, and inasmuch as this has been adjudicated to have been due them by the Government, and they are getting no interest upon it, I thought we might ask the committee if they would not appropriate enough to pay this amount; or, if they will not do that, if they will appropriate a certain sum, the \$150,000, or whatever the auditor of the Supreme Court may say will be sufficient to cover this and let them be paid as they proceed. Of course it is all to be appropriated out of the funds of the revenues of the District of Columbia, according to the original act.

The CHAIRMAN. You suggest that the committee call upon the Commissioners of the District to forward the estimate?

Mr. HEMPHILL. Yes, sir. And I want of course to get the appropriation made after the estimate is received, and that is really about all I have to say upon the subject. Mr. Wood now and Mr. Fague have some views in reference to the payment of this in drawback certificates which they want to present to the committee.

The CHAIRMAN. A provision I suppose to do that would have to go to the District committee?

Mr. HEMPHILL. Of course I would very glad to see them paid that way if it is the wish of the committee. You would not feel you had charge of that at all?

The CHAIRMAN. No; I would not feel we had jurisdiction.

Mr. HEMPHILL. May I ask whether you will call for this report from the Commissioners?

The CHAIRMAN. I will lay the matter before the subcommittee when there is a full attendance and take its judgment about it.

Mr. HEMPHILL. Now, I have been very brief—

The CHAIRMAN. I do not see there is anything else possible to say about it.

Mr. HEMPHILL. I do not think there is, sir.

MILITIA, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

STATEMENT OF GEN. GEORGE H. HARRIES.

The CHAIRMAN. Your item is the deficiency in the appropriation for the support of the militia of the District of Columbia, \$1,465.71. These sums have been paid?

General HARRIES. You will remember when I was here just a year ago we had what was then believed to be a complete return, it having been furnished me in the settlement of General Ordway's accounts, because they are turning over all his military property to me now, and all his accounts have to become my own instead of his; but we found these items unprovided for and not reported by him. You remember you gave enough to settle up the old trouble and it was completely settled, but these things developed, and I found what is called the "brigade fund," which is purely a personal fund subscribed by some six of us on the general staff, and used largely for staff purposes, such as entertainments; for instance, when the State of New Jersey sends the governor down here with a rifle team, we take care of that out of our brigade fund, and we made up this fund—and the General used practically the whole of that fund in making these payments which are on public matters, so we are without our private fund.

The CHAIRMAN. This is merely to reimburse that fund?

General HARRIES. Yes, sir; we will put it back in the fund and use it for the same purposes that we would use that fund for. We did not know until it was developed by this board that it was not used for private purposes and—

The CHAIRMAN. How is that a private fund; did it pass the auditing officer?

General HARRIES. No, sir; that is our private fund.

The CHAIRMAN. That is, this was never audited?

General HARRIES. No, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. It was paid from the brigade fund?

General HARRIES. Yes, sir; entirely, very much to our surprise and very much to our consternation, because it leaves us without any fund.

The CHAIRMAN. That was purely a private fund, and you want to have that amount there; how did he take that amount from it?

General HARRIES. He had entire control over it as commanding general, as we, as officers of the staff, had turned the money over to him. Now we have changed that procedure and put it in the hands of the quartermaster-general, who handles it just as he does the rest.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you mean it now ceases to be a personal fund?

General HARRIES. No, sir; it always will be a personal fund.

The CHAIRMAN. He has only to account to you as individuals?

General HARRIES. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. It does not go through the accounting officers of the Government in any shape?

General HARRIES. Not at all.

The CHAIRMAN. And this is to reimburse that fund?

General HARRIES. Yes, sir. Had this been known a year ago, when you took the matter up, these items would have come to you, but they were not known, and we only discovered them when this board of officers went through it.

The CHAIRMAN. Did Ordway give a bond?

General HARRIES. No; he did not.

The CHAIRMAN. There was no bond?

General HARRIES. No bond at all; no, sir.

MONDAY, March 21, 1898.

FISH COMMISSION.

TENNESSEE, FISH HATCHERY IN.

STATEMENT OF MR. W. DE C. RAVENEL, FISH COMMISSION.

The CHAIRMAN. You submit in House Document 353 an estimate of \$4,813 for additional ponds and foreman's cottage at Erwin, Tenn. This is a new hatchery?

Mr. RAVENEL. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. And partly occupied now?

Mr. RAVENEL. It is occupied now and equipped for trout work, and it is contemplated to hatch black bass, trout, and crappie, and the original appropriation of

\$12,000 finishes up the ponds, hatchery, and station, and they are all complete, but it will require about \$4,800 to complete the rearing ponds, stock ponds, etc.

The CHAIRMAN. How much for the foreman's cottage?

Mr. RAVENEL. Twelve hundred dollars, we have estimated.

The CHAIRMAN. And the balance is for the ponds? Just give us the items there.

Mr. RAVENEL. For the excavation of the large rearing ponds it is \$1,200; two stock ponds, \$1,080; grading roads, trees, etc., \$350; fencing grounds, \$100; incidentals, \$450, and contingencies, 10 per cent, \$138. The actual cost of the improvements is \$4,400 and some odd dollars, and we add 10 per cent for contingencies.

The CHAIRMAN. What do you mean by "contingencies?"

Mr. RAVENEL. I mean to say the architect has made an estimate, and he allows himself 10 per cent for extraordinary—

The CHAIRMAN. Do you not find it runs 10 per cent under rather than over when you construct, as a rule?

Mr. RAVENEL. We have based it on careful investigation and we are thoroughly familiar with the conditions there.

The CHAIRMAN. You do a great deal of construction. What is your observation? Does it not run over rather than under the estimates?

Mr. RAVENEL. No, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. You advertise, do you not?

Mr. RAVENEL. Wherever there is a large amount of work, yes, sir; but in this case we will not, because the only work of any importance is the excavation, and that can be done cheaper by day labor than by advertising. It is a sparsely settled country. Where we put up a building we always advertise and do it by contract.

The CHAIRMAN. Is this really a useful station?

Mr. RAVENEL. It is the same class of station as Neosho, Mo., or the Georgia station, or the Wytheville, Va., station. It is for fish for inland waters.

The CHAIRMAN. Precisely; but is it a useful station?

Mr. RAVENEL. I think it will be.

The CHAIRMAN. And a necessary one?

Mr. RAVENEL. Well, for supplying that section of the country, that is the only station from Washington to Texas on the South Atlantic coast, and it is a very large area there and more difficult to supply the demand than any other section of the country owing to the lack of stations in that part of the United States.

The CHAIRMAN. Independent of this item, I want to ask you the general question as to whether, considering your transportation facilities for the distribution of fish, after those stations at present authorized and being constructed are complete, whether the establishment of additional stations is necessary for the good of the service—

Mr. RAVENEL. Is necessary?

The CHAIRMAN. Yes.

Mr. RAVENEL. Well, I should say one certainly should be on the South Atlantic coast for the improvement of the commercial fishes; I think that would be very essential.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you not got any there at all?

Mr. RAVENEL. We have not a single station on the coast after we pass Washington; considering Havre de Grace and the Potomac as being on the coast, we have not any station on the coast at all.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, you say it is preferable to have another station on account of the transportation of these fish in your fish cars?

Mr. RAVENEL. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you gone into the cost of transportation between those points as compared with building a new station and maintaining it?

Mr. RAVENEL. The trouble is this, sir: That a station such as Erwin, a station such as that established on the coast of Florida or Georgia or North Carolina, would be for fish like shad and striped bass, important commercial fishes of that section; and to supply those fishes we would have to send a car down from Havre de Grace to that section of country, and it would be almost impossible to get the number up here, and if we did it it would cost between \$300 or \$400 every time we send a car from Havre de Grace, say, to Georgia, as we pay 20 cents a mile per car and crew, which is a small amount compared with a private individual.

The CHAIRMAN. You would have to pay the same distributing from that hatchery?

Mr. RAVENEL. Except that we would have but a comparatively short distance, and would not make as many small distributions.

The CHAIRMAN. It is 20 cents a mile each way for the car?

Mr. RAVENEL. Yes, sir; each way.

The CHAIRMAN. And you would have to run your car down to that station and have to run it back?

Mr. RAVENEL. I mean to say it is not absolutely essential, in my opinion, to make as many small distributions. We only do that because we have to send a car down there. A large proportion of the shad are distributed just where they are hatched; for example, on the Potomac here, two-thirds or three-fourths of the shad are distributed, you might say, in the immediate vicinity without any transportation at all. In the Delaware the same is true.

The CHAIRMAN. This station is not needed as badly as a coast station?

Mr. RAVENEL. No, sir; this is an inland station, Erwin, Tenn.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you got enough inland stations now?

Mr. RAVENEL. Well, in Tennessee, yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. I am asking for the facts; I am asking what are the facts?

Mr. RAVENEL. No, sir; I say frankly we have not. We think it is very probable we will have to have additional stations between Tennessee and Texas. I do not think there is any doubt we will. I am speaking of that section, of course.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you got enough in the northern and central part of the country?

Mr. RAVENEL. I think in New England we have enough stations there.

The CHAIRMAN. Could you spare any up there?

Mr. RAVENEL. No, sir; I think they are all very important.

The CHAIRMAN. You have got enough everywhere, unless it be in the southern Mississippi Valley?

Mr. RAVENEL. I think the Western States will probably after awhile need more stations.

The CHAIRMAN. But not this year or next?

Mr. RAVENEL. Not that I know of.

NEW YORK FILTER COMPANY.

The CHAIRMAN. You submit in House Document 351, \$300 to pay an account of the New York Filter Company. Is that the sum of money you owe these people?

Mr. RAVENEL. The filter was purchased in 1896-97, and we prepared to pay for it, but the Treasury Department, in view of the fact there was some question about patents, the New York Filter Company claiming the Jewell Filter Company encroached upon their patents, we were requested by the Treasury Department to delay the settlement unless they gave bond.

The CHAIRMAN. And you went to work and used the money for something else?

Mr. RAVENEL. We reserved the money, and it will settle it, except for a few dollars. We have not the full amount to settle that bill.

The CHAIRMAN. You knew you had incurred this obligation?

Mr. RAVENEL. But it might not have been settled for years.

The CHAIRMAN. It is covered by contract?

Mr. RAVENEL. That is perfectly true, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. You had authority to make a contract?

Mr. RAVENEL. It was only an amount of \$300, and items are constantly coming in, railroad and telegraph bills, a year after, and the appropriation has been slightly exceeded.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you pay any attention to the amount appropriated in the making of expenditures?

Mr. RAVENEL. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. In this item for the fiscal year 1896-97 is there any money available there at all?

Mr. RAVENEL. I think there is possibly \$100 or \$150.

The CHAIRMAN. Covered by anything?

Mr. RAVENEL. Simply held up for such miscellaneous expenses as may come in, for instance, transportation—

The CHAIRMAN. This \$300 is the whole of this?

Mr. RAVENEL. That is the entire amount.

GEORGE P. SANGER.

The CHAIRMAN. This document, No. 348, seems to be inspired in the present instance by a letter from Representative Moody, and there seems to have been formerly an estimate for legal services touching condemnation proceedings for the purchase of land at this point in New England. Do you know anything more about it than is stated in the document?

Mr. RAVENEL. I did not know there was anything here at all, sir, on that subject.

APPRAISERS' WAREHOUSE, NEW YORK.

STATEMENT OF MR. J. K. TAYLOR, SUPERVISING ARCHITECT.

The CHAIRMAN. You now ask in this estimate for \$50,000 of appropriation for several items of work in connection with the appraisers' warehouse in New York. Are you familiar with the history of this building?

Mr. TAYLOR. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. See if I get it right. The original limit of cost was \$850,000. That limit was extended to \$1,650,000, all of which has been appropriated?

Mr. TAYLOR. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. The last appropriation was for the current fiscal year \$300,000, which this committee was informed, and through the committee the House, that that would absolutely complete this appraiser's building?

Mr. TAYLOR. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. And in addition to all that there was an appropriation outside of the \$1,650,000 to which the limit had been extended of \$125,000 for strengthening the building?

Mr. TAYLOR. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Now who was it that made this mistake—I will not go into that—but who made this mistake last winter when we appropriated the \$300,000?

Mr. TAYLOR. I do not think there was any mistake in it. If you will notice in the letter these items that the Secretary recommends a deficiency for are items which as a usual thing do not go into a building, but in this building are extremely important for the economical handling of the business. For instance, you take the pneumatic tube service. That is from the invoice room on the first floor to the chief clerk of each one of the departments all over the building. Now, if they do not have that pneumatic-tube service they have to have messengers—several messengers to keep handling these invoices up and down throughout the building.

The CHAIRMAN. It is a private pneumatic-tube service?

Mr. TAYLOR. Yes, sir; inside the building.

The CHAIRMAN. How much is that to cost?

Mr. TAYLOR. That, I think, was estimated in the neighborhood of \$16,000 or \$17,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you the right to construct it?

Mr. TAYLOR. Yes, we have the right to construct it.

The CHAIRMAN. Free from patent or royalty?

Mr. TAYLOR. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. It is not connected with the ordinary pneumatic-tube service of the post-office building?

Mr. TAYLOR. It is the same thing they have in these big department stores—a pneumatic-tube service for handling their cash.

The CHAIRMAN. It is an overhead service?

Mr. TAYLOR. This will be an overhead service. It is a pneumatic tube, simply. You are thinking of the basket and string. They have a number of two-inch brass tubes that run over stores. They have them in Perry's, where the tubes run in the cashier's room on the second floor.

The CHAIRMAN. It is not that service?

Mr. TAYLOR. It is that sort of service.

The CHAIRMAN. Then the term "pneumatic tube service" misleads?

Mr. TAYLOR. This is a pneumatic tube, but the one you think of is the basket service, run by a string.

Mr. SAYERS. You have reference to this other concern which appears upon the post-office bill?

Mr. TAYLOR. That is outside the general pneumatic tube throughout the city.

The CHAIRMAN. This has no connection with that?

Mr. TAYLOR. No, sir; it is a separate device.

The CHAIRMAN. How do you operate this?

Mr. TAYLOR. By pneumatic pressure.

The CHAIRMAN. Where does the power come from?

Mr. TAYLOR. It is included in the \$16,000 or \$17,000.

Mr. NORTHWAY. The same system as is over here at the Library building?

Mr. TAYLOR. Practically the same.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there any portion of this for boilers, or have you got the power?

Mr. TAYLOR. We have got the power. This is simply to get a small compressing engine and compressor to furnish the power, and that is included in this.

The CHAIRMAN. What is the next item?

Mr. TAYLOR. Then the telephone service is in the same line, and fireproof elevator screens.

The CHAIRMAN. Let us take the telephone service. Did you not, at the time of this \$300,000 appropriation, know about this pneumatic tube service?

Mr. TAYLOR. No, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. You knew about the telephone service?

Mr. TAYLOR. No, sir; we did not know that was necessary. We asked, before we sent that estimate up, the appraiser and collector of the port to give us all the items that they could possibly estimate for that building, and we supposed we got them all. Subsequent to that there was a change in the appraiser, and the new appraiser added in a list of items as long as your arm which he says are necessary, and he has convinced the Secretary and the Department that it is necessary for the careful and economical management of his business there.

The CHAIRMAN. You charge up this \$50,000 to a change of appraisers?

Mr. TAYLOR. Yes; that is practically what it amounts to.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you hope to finish this up before there is another change?

Mr. TAYLOR. We are going to have this building done by the 15th day of April.

The CHAIRMAN. What have you got for the telephone service?

Mr. TAYLOR. I do not remember the estimate for that.

The CHAIRMAN. We will be glad to know that. You can send those items to us.

Mr. TAYLOR. Yes, sir; I can send a statement of each one.

The CHAIRMAN. You have got now \$16,000 or \$17,000 for the pneumatic tube service?

Mr. SAYERS. That leaves about \$34,000 for other items.

The CHAIRMAN. One of which is telephone service; that is, simply to run your wires in the different rooms where they need a telephone?

Mr. TAYLOR. It probably will not be over \$1,000 or \$1,200.

The CHAIRMAN. What is the next item?

Mr. TAYLOR. Fireproof elevator screens, that will be about \$10,000. I do not know whether you remember it or not, but that building covers a whole square, and in the center is a big court in which all the elevators, eight big freight elevators, run and distribute freight around to the different floors. That is all open, at least up to the sixth floor which is closed in, but from there up to the tenth floor is an open well. There is no screen between the cars, and should a fire occur on any of the lower floors the draft there will draw the fire up through the shaft and burn the whole building rather than one floor, and we want to fireproof that.

The CHAIRMAN. How do you fireproof it?

Mr. TAYLOR. With wire glass and with heavy wire screens to prevent a draft. We use wire glass, so that, even if it cracks, it will not fall out. It is fine-mesh wire.

The CHAIRMAN. What does that cost?

Mr. TAYLOR. That is an item of about \$10,000.

The CHAIRMAN. You cannot use asbestos paint or anything like that?

Mr. TAYLOR. No, sir; it is all open and we have to close it in, and it is to prevent the draft carrying the fire up through the well. There is nothing inflammable in the building except the stock of goods which will be stored there. If we can prevent the draft from the lower floors, should one of these floors get on fire, from carrying that flame up over the other floors, we can prevent the fire from spreading until we can get time to fight it.

The CHAIRMAN. That is about \$10,000; what is the next item?

Mr. TAYLOR. The traveling cranes will be a matter of \$2,500. Those are what the appraiser calls the trolley system. For instance, the driveway comes in there and goes out there; comes in on Christopher street and goes out on Barrow street, I think, and a long delivery platform is along that, and he wants a system of overhead tracks with cranes on them by which he can reach down and lift these big packages he has to carry along around through the elevator and land them right at the elevator doors without having to truck them and have a double handling by men, and in that way he can economically handle these big packages and land them at the elevator doors and swing them in the elevators and take them up to the upper floors, and then use the truck on them there.

The CHAIRMAN. What is that to cost?

Mr. TAYLOR. That is \$2,500.

The CHAIRMAN. What is the next?

Mr. TAYLOR. Shelving for tea-testing room and files room. That is a very small item. It is the nature of partitions for the tea testing and files room. At the time this estimate was first made, as the building was first laid out, the then appraiser stated they only wanted three floors with partitions in them—that is, they only needed the one office around the three floors. Since then the appraiser's department up there have changed their estimate, and have added partitions on every floor with the exception of one, covering the whole outside edge of the building with offices, leaving only the center for storage. This partition work accounts for this running up beyond what we estimated and our having to estimate for a deficiency for that. We expected we had money enough for it.

The CHAIRMAN. How much will it amount to?

Mr. TAYLOR. The partition and other things amount to probably \$4,000 or \$5,000. I can give you the exact items.

The CHAIRMAN. That is what we want. What is the next item?

Mr. TAYLOR. Additional electric work that will probably amount to \$3,500 or \$4,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Electric work for what?

Mr. TAYLOR. Electric light throughout the building on account of these additional partitions.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you got your own plant there?

Mr. TAYLOR. No, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Where do you get it?

Mr. TAYLOR. We have three sources of supply; one the Mount Morris Electric Company, one the United States, and one the Edison.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you any heating plant?

Mr. TAYLOR. We have our own heating and power plant.

The CHAIRMAN. Could you not install your plant?

Mr. TAYLOR. It would cost about \$15,000 to install a plant. It is a more economical system, because we could use the exhaust steam for heating the building.

The CHAIRMAN. What is the commercial cost of electric lighting there?

Mr. TAYLOR. I do not know what rates they pay there.

The CHAIRMAN. There is no estimate for that?

Mr. TAYLOR. There is no estimate for that; it is just simply for extra wiring inside of the extra partitions.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, I do not want to dig up any. What is the next item?

Mr. TAYLOR. There is an extension of the delivery platform that the appraiser is very anxious to have across the sidewalk there, which would amount to \$800 or \$1,000, if my memory serves me right.

The CHAIRMAN. Let me ask you the truth. You are a practical man, or you ought to be, as the head of this Department as supervising architect. Here comes a change of assessors with an increased estimate for finishing that building of \$50,000. Now, is it necessary for the public service, or is it a whim of that new man—leather or prunella—or does it have its feet in the real benefit of the service?

Mr. TAYLOR. It is an actual benefit to the service; all these appliances will be an actual benefit and a more economical means of handling the business.

The CHAIRMAN. And enough of importance to justify the expense?

Mr. TAYLOR. I think so. I feel sure that the amount of extra service that would be saved in almost every one of these, with the exception of the fireproof elevator screens, which would be a stand off, because of the extra protection from the danger of a large fire, we could stop a small fire. I think the rest of the appliances will save enough extra services to more than pay interest on the sum of money asked for.

The CHAIRMAN. Interest, wear and tear, deterioration, and all that kind of thing?

Mr. TAYLOR. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. What assurances can Congress have, when they started out with an estimate of \$650,000 for this building and have spent now about \$1,800,000, whether we would or not—what assurances have we that this is the end of it?

Mr. TAYLOR. If, as you say just now, we run over to another assessor, I could give no assurances, but the present assessor we think has got all he can think of. In fact I know he has; he has in all we will consider now anyhow.

The CHAIRMAN. Let me ask you as a practical business man, suppose you had this work to do under contract for the Government, from an economical standpoint, would you make this expenditure of \$50,000?

Mr. TAYLOR. From an economical standpoint I would, as I am saving money in the long run in operating expenses by these means.

The CHAIRMAN. With a whole lot of nice machinery and all that kind of thing that has to be operated.

Mr. TAYLOR. I know it has to be operated. For instance, these pneumatic tubes, in the first place, save I do not know how many messengers, but at least one messenger for every ten departments, and that is ten messengers, and the traveling cranes save three or four truckmen for every package they deliver.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D. C., March 21, 1898.

Hon. JOSEPH G. CANNON,

Chairman of Committee on Appropriations,

House of Representatives, United States.

(Division of Bookkeeping and Warrants.)

SIR: Referring to your request for the principal items of work entering into the deficiency appropriation asked for in connection with the United States appraisers' warehouse building, New York City, I have to state the following:

Pneumatic-tube service	\$17,000
Installation of private telephone system.....	3,000

Fireproofing elevator screen.....	\$12,000
Partitions, shelving, etc., for files rooms, tea-testing room, etc.....	3,000
Electric work	4,000
Delivery platform, or traveling cranes (one or the other will be needed)....	5,000
Separators for water-tube boilers.....	600
Sundry repairs	1,730
Total	46,330

Demands are constantly being made for items not included in the above, to meet which the balance of the \$50,000 requested will be needed.

Respectfully, yours,

L. J. GAGE, *Secretary.*

WAR DEPARTMENT.

PAY OF THE ARMY.

STATEMENT OF GEN. T. H. STANTON, PAYMASTER-GENERAL.

The CHAIRMAN. General Stanton, in document 350, you submit an estimate for pay of the Army which aggregates \$466,459.40. If I understand you aright, that estimate is upon the basis of the expenditures for the first six months?

General STANTON. Yes, sir. The note underneath the next page explains that.

The CHAIRMAN. I notice that. Now, in this appropriation in the army bill, while it was made in items, there was, if I recollect aright, a general provision consolidating the appropriations?

General STANTON. Well, that is at the close, the last paragraph of the act, where it states this sum shall be considered as one sum for the pay of the Army.

The CHAIRMAN. Precisely.

General STANTON. But the committees generally require these statements shall be itemized.

The CHAIRMAN. I understand. In view of that provision, have you consolidated these items in making this estimate?

General STANTON. Yes; we put in everything there is as far as we can make it out.

The CHAIRMAN. You have given the various things; for instance, pay of officers of the line \$170,000, pay of officers for length of service \$25,000, etc. Now, have you any surplus from the other items or any other item?

General STANTON. No; on the contrary, we are short almost in every item.

The CHAIRMAN. What was the total appropriation for pay of Army?

General STANTON. \$13,128,254.30.

The CHAIRMAN. That was your total appropriation for the pay of the Army. Now, then, how much did you expend for pay of the Army the first six months?

General STANTON. \$7,100,000 the first six months, and that leaves the month of December out for the troops.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you mean to say you expended \$7,000,000 for the first five months?

General STANTON. That includes pay of officers of course, but not all the pay of enlisted men.

The CHAIRMAN. You ask for \$154,170.56 in Document No. 344 on account of the two new artillery regiments. When do you expect to have these men enlisted?

General STANTON. We began enlisting them right away, and this estimate was made to show what would be the actual cost of this new organization from the date of the passage of the act.

The CHAIRMAN. That is, if it was full at that time?

General STANTON. But as it stands now we can make a reduction on that estimate by, say, \$41,000. We can reduce that \$154,000 by \$41,000. That is all we can do with that.

The CHAIRMAN. You do that because they can not be enlisted?

General STANTON. Yes. I am very glad to be able to make that reduction.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

STATEMENT OF MR. J. T. PETTY, AUDITOR OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The CHAIRMAN. What are the items you have to submit?

Mr. PETTY. The first is for the pay of the janitor, Western High School, \$200 for the months of May and June. That building will be in our possession on the 1st of May, and the janitor has been provided for in the next year's appropriation bill, but from May 1 to June 30 the amount of this estimate is required.

Mr. NORTHWAY. That is two months' pay?

Mr. PETTY. Yes, sir.

Mr. SAYERS. What is the length of your free-school term here?

Mr. PETTY. Well, it varies sometimes, but generally runs from the second or third Monday in September to the third Wednesday in June.

Mr. SAYERS. That practically makes a nine months' term?

Mr. PETTY. About that, practically.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you given the amount you need there for the janitor?

Mr. PETTY. It is \$100 a month; \$200 for the two months.

The CHAIRMAN. What is the next item?

Mr. PETTY. It is to pay special counsel who were retained by the Commissioners to defend the District in the highway-extension act. The Commissioners have made to the Senate a statement of all the expenditures on that account, and I submit a copy for your information. (Senate Document No. 180.)

Mr. SAYERS. How much is it?

Mr. PETTY. The principal attorney, Mr. Birney, was engaged at an annual compensation of \$5,000; the first assistant, Mr. Hemphill, at \$2,000, and the second assistant, Mr. Warder Voorhees, at \$1,200.

Mr. SAYERS. What Hemphill?

Mr. PETTY. John J. Hemphill.

Mr. NORTHWAY. Were they all engaged on the same thing?

Mr. PETTY. Yes, sir.

Mr. NORTHWAY. Could not one attorney do it if he spent all his time on it?

Mr. PETTY. The Commissioners were of opinion that one would not be sufficient. That document, Mr. Cannon, states the situation fully, and shows the necessity for the employment of these gentlemen.

The CHAIRMAN. I find 48 cases of condemnation proceedings that have been filed and are now pending in court which Special Attorney Birney estimates will cost upon an average \$300 each, or a total amount of \$14,400. Are you still going to fight those cases?

Mr. PETTY. They are still on the docket, and if the law stands will have to be tried. In that event we will need the services of these special attorneys again.

The CHAIRMAN. Is it not an absolutely open secret that until that law is amended it is not to be operative?

Mr. PETTY. We have suspended operations until it is definitely determined what course should be pursued.

The CHAIRMAN. It is not contemplated that that \$14,400 payment is to be made now?

Mr. PETTY. No, sir; if these cases are not tried, we will not be called upon to pay the \$14,400.

The CHAIRMAN. Are these attorneys' pay running on?

Mr. PETTY. No, sir; it was stopped on the 9th of February.

The CHAIRMAN. What you ask now is to pay Birney, Hemphill, and Voorhees—how much?

Mr. PETTY. From September 9 to February 9, five months' compensation, with the understanding that their services are no longer required unless these cases should be prosecuted further; then we will call upon them again. That is the understanding.

The CHAIRMAN. It is five-twelfths of \$8,200 you want?

Mr. PETTY. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. I find this note here:

"The attorney for the district, S. T. Thomas, being unable to give necessary attention to the highway-extension cases, Messrs. Birney, Hemphill, and Voorhees were appointed with the understanding and agreement that no compensation should be allowed nor liability be incurred for their services unless Congress shall make a specific appropriation therefor."

Then they have not any claim with which they could go to the Court of Claims?

Mr. PETTY. No, sir; there is positively no obligation on the part of the District for service rendered unless Congress shall make an appropriation therefor. They have rendered valuable services, though, and should be compensated.

The CHAIRMAN. In the Statutes at Large, volume 23, page 17, I find this law:

"And hereafter no department or officer of the United States shall accept voluntary service for the Government or employ personal service in excess of that authorized by law except in cases of sudden emergency involving the loss of human life or the destruction of property."

That is a pretty broad law.

Mr. PETTY. It is a pretty broad law, but it has always been understood that it did not apply to the District of Columbia.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

ELEVENTH CENSUS.

STATEMENT OF MR. E. M. DAWSON, CHIEF CLERK INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

The CHAIRMAN. Here is an item to pay William Hayden for correcting 856 pages of plate proof for Indian report of Eleventh Census, \$600; another item to pay one John Donaldson \$343, and another item to pay Walter G. Marmon \$192. Why were those items not paid at the time?

MR. DAWSON. Those were some accounts which were left over from the last census, and the parties did not present their claims for one reason or another until within a year or two. One man put his account away and neglected to send it in; another man was insane, and the third man—I do not know why Marmon did not put in his account.

The CHAIRMAN. If these accounts had been presented at the time, would they have been paid?

MR. DAWSON. Yes, I presume they would; there is no doubt about that; they are just claims.

The CHAIRMAN. And the money for them has lapsed?

MR. DAWSON. The money was all expended. Colonel Donaldson, who was the general agent under whose direction these men worked, can give you the details if you wish them.

FIRE-ALARM SYSTEM, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
Washington, March 22, 1898.

Hon. JOSEPH G. CANNON,
*Chairman Committee on Appropriations,
United States House of Representatives.*

MY DEAR SIR: A recent investigation of the fire-alarm system of this city has developed, very unexpectedly to the Commissioners, its inadequacy and unreliability to such an extent as to make it appear absolutely essential, in order to protect the property of the city, and even life itself, that it should be thoroughly reconstructed.

It having been brought to the attention of the Commissioner in charge of this department of public safety that alarms of fire were incorrectly received at the engine houses, an investigation developed the fact that, during the year 1897, out of 256 alarms transmitted 76 were incorrectly received, or about 30 per cent of all alarms received were so incorrect as to make the actual location of the fire uncertain, causing delay and serious consequences.

This defect is largely due to the fact that the apparatus in the central office is old and not at all commensurate with the growth of the system and the city, and in order that the Commissioners might be more intelligently informed on the subject a representative of the largest and most reliable house in New York, the Gamewell Company, came to Washington and made a thorough inspection of the entire system, and has submitted his report, a copy of which is herewith attached.

In order to give to this city what it actually needs and deserves in the matter of fire protection and police appliances the Commissioners most earnestly beg that there may be inserted in the deficiency bill an item making provision for such equipment, of \$50,000, and in order that this office may be properly housed, the small space allowed it in the small rented building now occupied by the District office being entirely inadequate, and seeing no provision for a municipal building in the near future, it is proposed to add an additional story to the engine house now being completed on Eighth street northwest, between D and E streets, which will give ample accommodations for this important branch of the service, and afford permanent headquarters for the same, and for this the Commissioners ask an appropriation of \$6,000.

If Congress should grant this appropriation the city will be as thoroughly equipped for police and fire telegraphic communication as any other city in the country, or as it can well be, with the exception of having its wires underground instead of overhead, as they now are; but the Commissioners, believing that in the near future the extension of the electric and telephone wires will provide conduits which may be made use of without any expense to the District government, are of the opinion that it will be wise to wait until such conduits are laid, rather than to ask for an appropriation at this time for that particular purpose.

The Commissioners beg to call the attention of the committee to the comparatively small appropriations which have been made each year for the support of this important department of public safety and its extension, and submit herewith a statement showing the amount expended in a number of other cities about the size of Washington, from which it will be seen that we have appropriated for this city less than one-half of the annual appropriations for other cities of a corresponding and similar size.

Very respectfully,

JOHN W. ROSS,
President of the Board of Commissioners for the District of Columbia.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 21, 1898.

Hon. JOHN B. WIGHT,
Commissioner, District of Columbia.

SIR: In reply to your request to examine the condition of the fire-alarm, telegraph, and police-patrol systems, in use in this city, and to report what is needed to improve them, so as to make them adequate, complete, and reliable, I beg to submit the following report:

The fire alarm telegraph system of this city now has in use 232 signal boxes, about 60 of which are the original boxes introduced here over 25 years ago; the remainder of the boxes are the Gardner patent, and about 80 of them are provided with standard cut-outs. In my opinion the city requires at least 100 more signal boxes to adequately protect locations now without fire alarm boxes. And to make the signal box part of the system thoroughly reliable the 60 old boxes should be replaced with 60 modern boxes, and the 80 Gardner boxes should have standard cut-outs put in them.

There are 19 fire department companies in service, provided with our Excelsior gongs. This part of the system is in better shape than any other. It would, perhaps, be better, however, to furnish the companies with visual indicators, so that the companies could receive all fire alarms, both on the gong and on the indicator, doing away with the chances of the foremen of the companies mistaking the number of the fire-alarm box given on the gong.

Before the indicators could be reliably used, however, on the present system, it would be necessary to retime the signal boxes and make their speed more uniform. In this connection I would suggest, also, that as the city operates under still-alarm methods, it would be advisable to increase the speed of the boxes to 1-second time—they are now running on the 2-second time.

The central office system now has twelve signal circuits and six alarm circuits, using in the daytime manual transmissions of alarms, and at night the automatic repeater. The present appliances at the central office are entirely outgrown, the circuits being overloaded and of too great a length. I should recommend the adoption of a modern manual central-station system, consisting of 30 box circuits and 10 alarm circuits, and equipped with all the modern appliances. I do not think any other way would be sure to give efficient and reliable service.

The present telegraph lines I find, upon examination, to be in good condition. All are aerial and three-fourths of them are bare copper wire. Their construction is very good, and compares favorably with any other system.

I would also recommend the use of a storage battery, in place of the present primary battery. There are 500 cells of battery now in service, and the expense of maintenance alone would soon pay for the change to storage-battery system, not counting the other great advantages furnished by storage-battery service.

POLICE-PATROL SYSTEM.

There are nine precincts in this city, all of which are supplied with police-patrol signal system; but only two of them, Nos. 2 and 6, have the modern Gamewell plant. Most of the precincts formerly used the Chicago system, with chemical registers. These, I understand, have been changed to inking registers, and the precinct's circuits cut into two parts. In some cases I would recommend that four circuits be used, reducing the size of the line and making the service more efficient and reliable on that account.

The communication with the wagon houses is by push buttons and vibrating bells. While this seems to answer the purpose fairly well, I believe that it would be better to have a transmitter and gong for wagon-house signals. The police telegraph lines are well constructed and in good shape.

Very respectfully,

GAMEWELL FIRE ALARM COMPANY,
Per T. TORREY.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
Washington, March 24, 1898.

Hon. JOSEPH G. CANNON,
Chairman Committee on Appropriations,
United States House of Representatives.

DEAR SIR: In compliance with your request for a detailed statement regarding the \$50,000 asked for in the communication of the Commissioners of yesterday, I have the honor to inclose herewith the information desired.

Very respectfully,

JOHN B. WIGHT,
Commissioner, District of Columbia.

MEMORANDUM.

For the complete equipment of the central station system, including provision for thirty box circuits and ten alarm circuits, equipped with all modern appliances, to take the place of the present system, which is incomplete and inadequate, for details of which see separate sheet	\$21, 500
For the necessary cabinet work for mounting the same	3, 000
For storage-battery system, to take the place of the gravity-battery system now in use	3, 500
For replacing 60 old fire-alarm boxes, which have been worn out, with 60 new, modern boxes	6, 000
For placing in 80 boxes standard cut-outs, to prevent their being destroyed by lightning or other electrical disturbances	1, 000
NOTE.—During last year we paid \$2,000 to replace those which were destroyed by lightning, and which expense would have been saved had the boxes had these cut-outs in them.	
For 100 boxes for use in the outlying suburbs, which have recently been thickly built up, and in unprotected parts of the city	12, 500
For 20 visual indicators, to be placed in the engine houses for recording visually alarms received, to prevent any errors in responding to fires	2, 500
In all	50, 000

DETAILS OF ITEMS, PROVIDED FOR IN THE AMOUNT GIVEN ON OTHER PAGE OF \$21,500, FOR THE EQUIPPING OF THE CENTRAL STATION.

A relay board having a double protection, using for this purpose "plush" protectors to open the line, fuse tubes for protection against sneak currents, lightning arresters and terminals, and plates; placed and mounted.

For the proper changes and commutations of the circuits, a main line relay board, having circuit annunciator, showing the number of the circuit, and box list showing the number of boxes on the circuit.

A Morse key for hand telegraphing and relay for operating signal boxes.

Regular four-way switch for plugging in instruments, and a joker system apparatus for operating direct with engine houses. All of which are properly mounted in a suitable cabinet of hard wood.

Main-line switch board provided with upright galvanometers for each circuit; all of the necessary switches for making the proper commutations among the various circuits.

Looping-in spring jacks for looping in testing and other instruments.

The necessary number of auxiliary battery switches for looping in new batteries, with resistance coils for controlling same. All of which will be promptly mounted in marbleized slate base, and set up in proper hard-wood case.

One thirty-pen box signal register for receiving the alarms on each circuit.

One ten-pen register for confirming the alarms sent out.

One automatic "line tester" for testing the lines frequently, and chime of bells for same.

All of these instruments are mounted with the manual repeater on suitable hard-wood cabinet pedestals.

These specifications also include connecting the same with the lines in a thoroughly workmanlike manner.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
Washington, March 24, 1898.

Hon. JOSEPH G. CANNON,

Chairman Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives.

DEAR SIR: The figures furnished you yesterday as comparative statistics of expenses paid in various cities, were for the total expenses of the fire department in each of the cities mentioned; that for Washington being \$227,420 for the year 1895-96.

The amount appropriated for Washington for 1896-97 was \$231,700, so that the proper comparison would be as follows:

City.	Population.	Number of boxes.	Annual expenses.
Washington.....	285,000	232	\$231,700
Pittsburg	280,000	382	359,000
Detroit.....	300,000	365	509,000
Buffalo	335,000	382	478,000
Cleveland	362,000	300	445,000
Boston	510,000	592	1,138,000
Providence.....	150,000	290	340,000

Very respectfully,

JOHN B. WIGHT,
Commissioner District of Columbia.

PENSIONS.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, March 24, 1898.

The CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS,

House of Representatives.

SIR: I have this day forwarded to the Secretary of the Treasury, for transmission to Congress as required by law, an estimate as to the amount which will be required to pay army pensions during the balance of the present fiscal year, viz, \$8,070,872.46. A copy of my communication accompanying the same is herewith submitted.

For your information in connection therewith, and as indicating the work of the Pension Bureau during the year commencing March 1, 1897, and ending February 28, 1898, I have the honor to submit the following facts, to wit:

There were admitted to the roll between March 1, 1897, and June 30, 1897, 19,537 pensioners, involving first payments amounting to \$3,551,240; 17,527 increase and other cases were allowed during that period, involving the payment of \$2,075,898. Between July 1, 1897, and February 28, 1898, 34,877 new names were placed on the pension roll, involving first payments of \$6,339,592.29, and between the same dates 28,567 increase and other cases were allowed, involving the payment of \$3,383,475.49. There has been a net increase in the roll between March 1, 1897, and February 28, 1898, of 12,321, and between July 1, 1897, and February 28, 1898, a net increase of 13,599. This difference may be accounted for from the fact that the droppings from the pension roll between March 1, 1897, and June 30, 1897, exceeded the allowances. The number of pensioners on the roll February 28, 1897, was 977,272; the number of pensioners on the roll June 30, 1897, was 976,014; the number of pensioners on the roll February 28, 1898, was 989,613.

Very respectfully,

C. N. BLISS, *Secretary.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, March 24, 1898.

The honorable the SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith, for transmission to Congress for such consideration and action as in its wisdom may seem proper, a communication from the honorable Commissioner of Pensions, with an estimate of appropriation required to supply the deficiency in the appropriation for the army and navy pensions for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1898.

Notice is drawn to the report of this Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1897 (see p. 22), in which the statement was made that the appropriation for that year was inadequate, and in consequence the current fiscal year's appropriation

was burdened with payments amounting to \$2,191,694.63, which sum was in the nature of a deficiency of the previous year. In further explanation thereof I will add that the Pension Bureau executed 14,671 certificates, which were ready for delivery in June, 1897, and first payments thereon ought to have been provided for by a deficiency appropriation for that year, but instead these certificates were withheld because of the exhaustion of the appropriation and a seeming disinclination to ask Congress for the needed deficiency, and were not delivered until after the beginning of the next fiscal year. The first payments on these certificates were therefore made from the appropriation for the current fiscal year, amounting to the sum above stated, to wit, \$2,191,694.63. It will thus be seen that properly this sum represents a deficiency in the last fiscal year, but by withholding the certificates and making the first payments thereon as stated, the deficiency for the present fiscal year is swollen by that amount, the estimated deficiency really incurred this year being \$5,879,177.83. These two items aggregate the sum of \$8,070,872.46, and, according to the statement of the honorable Commissioner of Pensions, constitute the additional amount required for the payment of army pensions in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1898.

From the Commissioner's communication it appears that on the 1st of July, 1897, there was available \$140,000,000 for the payment of army and navy pensions; \$4,000,000 of this amount was set apart for navy pensions, leaving \$136,000,000 for payment of army pensions. The total number of pensioners on the roll June 30, 1897, was 976,014, while on the 28th of February, 1898, there were 989,613 on the roll, a net increase of 13,599. Between the latter dates there was disbursed for the payment of the army pensions \$95,370,872.46, leaving the sum of \$40,629,127.54 for the payment of pensions to the end of the present fiscal year. The Commissioner estimates that \$48,700,000 will be required for the payment of pensions during the remaining four months of the fiscal year, to wit, March, April, May, and June, which is more than \$8,000,000 in excess of the unexpended appropriation.

The Commissioner has recently expressed to me an opinion as to the future course of pension payments, at variance with his views thereon as stated in the annual report, which was to the effect that after the close of the current year payments would rapidly decline. It is now his opinion that in view of the increasing applications for original pensions and for increase of pensions that there will be an increase in the sum required for the payment of army and navy pensions for some time to come. In this connection the appended table, showing the number of pensioners on the roll and the value of the roll annually since 1887, is significant. From this it appears that the pension roll has substantially doubled since a quarter of a century after the close of the war. In 1890—twenty-five years after the war closed—the number of pensioners on the roll was 537,944. At the close of the current fiscal year the number on the roll will approximate 996,000, an increase of nearly 90 per cent since 1890. In that time the value of the roll has increased from \$72,052,143.49 in 1890 to approximately \$132,000,000 in the present fiscal year.

The roll is larger now than at any former time, notwithstanding that thirty-three years have elapsed since the cessation of hostilities. It contained about 5,500 more pensioners in 1897 than it did in 1896, and approximately 20,000 more in 1898 than in 1897; and the value of the roll has also increased in the same period.

It is not improbable that the estimated increase for the four months following the 28th of February of the present fiscal year may be excessive, but not sufficiently so to very materially affect the situation, as the estimate is based upon the known increase of the preceding eight months.

It was indicated in the report of the honorable Commissioner of Pensions for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1897, that a considerable deficiency would be found to exist in the ensuing fiscal year. As the amount of such deficiency, however, would depend upon the number of applications passed upon during the remainder of the fiscal year, I thought it inadvisable to include in the estimates for 1898 an uncertain amount, and with the statement that such a deficiency would exist I caused to be placed in the estimates the same amount that was appropriated for the fiscal year 1898. It would seem needless to add that it is now apparent that the estimates for 1899 are largely insufficient.

Respectfully,

C. N. BLISS, *Secretary.*

Pension statistics, 1888-1897, inclusive.

Fiscal year.	Number of pensioners.	Total annual value of all pensions.	Average annual value.
1888	452,557	\$50,707,220.92	\$125.30
1889	439,725	64,246,552.36	131.18
1890	587,944	72,052,143.49	133.94
1891	676,160	89,247,200.20	131.90
1892	876,068	116,879,867.24	133.41
1893	966,012	130,510,179.34	135.10
1894	969,544	130,120,863.00	134.20
1895	970,524	130,048,365.00	133.99
1896	970,678	129,485,587.00	133.39
1897	976,014	129,795,428.00	133.17
1898 (July 1 to February 28)	999,613	.....	.....
Proportionate increase for balance fiscal year	6,796	.....	.....
Total	996,409	a 132,507,963.00	.....

a Estimated.

MONDAY, March 23, 1898.

FIRE-ALARM SYSTEM, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

STATEMENTS OF MR. JOHN B. WIGHT, COMMISSIONER OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, AND MR. HENRY R. MILES, SUPERINTENDENT OF TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SERVICE, BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE IN CHARGE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATION BILL.

The CHAIRMAN. You are familiar with this estimate for the fire-alarm system and correspondence touching the same, which has been referred to us for examination and report by the subcommittee in charge of deficiencies?

Mr. WIGHT. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, to start in, we perhaps are not very familiar with this, and you will develop it as we proceed. When was your present system inaugurated?

Mr. MILES. The present system was put in in 1875.

The CHAIRMAN. What has been its development or additions since 1875?

Mr. MILES. Since 1875 we have added boxes from time to time—improved ones, as they improved them along—and some three years ago we put in some new central-office instruments because the growth of the plant outside necessitated the establishment of three or four or five additional circuits; so we had to have new repeaters to give accommodations to the new circuits we put in them. Previous to that, beginning with 1875, we had four alarm circuits on which the engine houses are located, and we had seven signal circuits on which fire-alarm boxes were located. About three years ago we put in some new repeaters that had a capacity of twelve signal circuits and six alarm circuits.

The CHAIRMAN. Those have been the additions since the establishment of the plant?

Mr. MILES. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. What did the plant cost originally?

Mr. MILES. Seventy-five thousand dollars, which included rather primitive repeaters, which were used as long ago as that, and 75 boxes.

The CHAIRMAN. That included the plant and boxes?

Mr. MILES. Yes, sir; the whole plant; then the wire and everything cost \$75,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, about how much have been the appropriations since then—the sum total?

Mr. MILES. We started then with 75 boxes. We have now 232 boxes.

The CHAIRMAN. What does a box cost?

Mr. MILES. One hundred and twenty-five dollars each.

The CHAIRMAN. Any other additions?

Mr. MILES. Nothing except the repeaters of which I spoke.

The CHAIRMAN. And they cost—what?

Mr. MILES. One repeater at the central office, or the manual repeater, as it is more properly called, cost \$4,500, and the automatic repeater, with a capacity for six signal circuits and twelve alarm circuits, cost \$2,270.

The CHAIRMAN. That is the sum total?

Mr. MILES. Yes. We put them in ourselves; that is what we paid for the two instruments.

The CHAIRMAN. That is all the appropriation you have received for increasing the facility of the plant from 1875 to the present?

Mr. MILES. Yes, sir; that is all the appropriation; just sufficient to buy the additional boxes we put in and those two repeaters I spoke of.

The CHAIRMAN. What is the system under which you now operate?

Mr. MILES. We have two repeaters, but we call it generally the automatic system, because where the automatic repeater is switched in the alarm comes in and goes out immediately without any intervention proper; but we found it difficult to work the automatic repeater during the day time, from the fact that so many persons are manipulating their wires all over the District and city that they are liable to cross and sometimes strike our wires and give false strokes, which the automatic repeater will take up and send out to the engine houses, so we use the automatic repeater, as a rule, only at night.

The CHAIRMAN. Can you adopt this addendum of the Gamewell system to your system without any trouble?

Mr. MILES. Our system is the Gamewell system.

The CHAIRMAN. I thought you called it the automatic. Do you call the Gamewell system the automatic system?

Mr. MILES. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. It is the Gamewell automatic system?

Mr. MILES. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Then it is the same system?

Mr. MILES. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. When did you first know or ascertain that your boxes were defective and your system was defective?

Mr. MILES. We found out years ago it was defective to some extent—the defects crept out. For instance, one defect we found in the old original style of 75 boxes put in then; they are not strictly noninterfering, and if you pull one box, start to giving an alarm, and another box should be pulled simultaneously, they would strike in on each other and prevent the alarm coming in properly.

Mr. WIGHT. If I might take up the story right there, I think I can answer the question you just asked.

The CHAIRMAN. Go ahead.

Mr. WIGHT. I was made Commissioner last May, and have charge of the fire department, the police department, the health department, and a number of other departments, and about two weeks ago I was visiting on Saturday night one of the engine houses. Something was said about a mistake in receiving an alarm, and in conversation with the assistant chief engineer, who is located at that particular house, he told his foreman to go and look at his book and see if he could find the record of a box to which I referred. The foreman, in looking through his book, spoke of a number of alarms which had been received incorrectly, in trying to find the one to which I had referred.

The CHAIRMAN. Which you state here.

Mr. WIGHT. Yes, sir; and I said, "What have you got there?" And he said it was a book in which he kept a record of everything that happened in the house. He brought out a large book and, glancing down a page or two, he showed me a number of these boxes which had been received at that engine house incorrectly. That seemed an amazing thing to me, that there should be so many incorrect alarms; and Monday morning when I went to the office I sent down to the chief engineer to send me up a report of all the alarms received during 1897, the total number of alarms received, and the total number of incorrect alarms received as reported by the foremen of the various engine houses, and I was amazed to find that out of a total of 256 alarms received, 72 or 76 had been incorrectly received. Now, my next step was to ask for a report from Mr. Miles, superintendent of the fire-alarm system, why those reports had been received incorrectly.

The CHAIRMAN. Just to interrupt you there. Did you go back of the present year?

Mr. WIGHT. No, sir; I simply took 1897.

The CHAIRMAN. You did not take any examination further than for that year?

Mr. WIGHT. No, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Then you have no idea as to the relation of incorrect alarms sent in as compared with the total number.

Mr. MILES. There is not much difference; probably they are about the same.

The CHAIRMAN. I wanted to ascertain the point whether you had been running on in this indifferent relation of error to a correct condition for several years?

Mr. WIGHT. I presume they have, Mr. Chairman. There are three reasons why these alarms may be incorrectly received at the engine houses. One is that the foremen may not count the gong correctly. Their system is that the foreman and the assistant foreman, two men, as soon as the gong strikes, shall stand near the gong and count it together, and then without saying to each other—

The CHAIRMAN. They are on duty night and day?

Mr. WIGHT. Yes, sir; and each repeats the number he has counted, to see if they verify each other. When box No. 136 has struck one stroke and a pause, three strokes and a pause, and then six strokes, it may happen that the men get excited with the horses running out and a great deal of confusion in harnessing, etc., and might make an error in counting, and they might run the one and the three strokes together and count them as 46 instead of 136, and then the second reason is—

The CHAIRMAN. Now, right there, in connection with that. Do I understand that that is your system at each one of the fire stations?

Mr. WIGHT. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Therefore someone is on duty the twenty-four hours, and this system runs the city?

Mr. WIGHT. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. So that each division, or each station house, may know whether the call is within its territory?

Mr. WIGHT. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. How many stations have you in the city?

Mr. WIGHT. We have twenty—two being just about completed.

The CHAIRMAN. And you have eighteen in actual operation?

Mr. WIGHT. Yes, sir; including engine companies, truck companies, and chemicals. At night, from 10 o'clock to 4 o'clock, in four engine houses we have a system by which there is a little bell, and a man sits at that bell on watch for an hour and twelve minutes, each man. If an alarm comes in he gets it on the "ticker," as we call it, and he has nothing to do but to sit there and count it. If it is in the district to which his company responds, he immediately switches on the big house bell, and the men come down from their beds and go out, having received the number of the box from him.

If the station house is at the navy-yard and the fire is out in the northwest, they are not disturbed; they get a full night's rest, men and horses; but there is always somebody whose duty it is to count that gong, and it is very possible for these men to make errors. Now, the thing to correct that, as provided for in this, is a visual indicator which will show on a machine for that purpose the number of the box, so that they will have not only the sound of the gong, but the visual indicator to verify the count of the gong. Now, the second possible cause of an incorrect alarm being received is, first, these old-fashioned boxes, which have not this system which will prevent two boxes on different circuits being pulled and jumble the alarm up in such a way as to make it impossible to count it.

The CHAIRMAN. How many old-fashioned boxes have you?

Mr. WIGHT. We have about 60 old-fashioned boxes.

The CHAIRMAN. And all the rest are boxes you propose to put in—that is, all the remainder of your boxes are the same boxes you propose to put in?

Mr. WIGHT. Yes, sir; except 80 are boxes, with a single exception, for which we have not apparatus which will prevent their burning out by lightning; but that is a small expense of \$12.50 for each box, and they are all right otherwise, and the new boxes have all the modern appliances.

The CHAIRMAN. The boxes you propose to put in have everything modern?

Mr. WIGHT. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. And they are to cost what?

Mr. WIGHT. One hundred and twenty-five dollars each.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, go on.

Mr. WIGHT. The third reason is that in the central office—although this is not likely to occur, still it is possible to occur—when the alarm comes in it is struck by a system of bells and the chief operator up there counts those bells and sets the manual machine to the number of the box which he has counted by the bells, and that goes out to all these engine houses, and everywhere else, as the number of box from which the alarm has been received. It will be much safer to have the visual indicator in connection with the system so he would have a verified count.

The CHAIRMAN. Does your estimate presuppose the visual indicator?

Mr. WIGHT. Yes, sir. Just to which one of those three reasons the 76 incorrect alarms may be attributed it is a little difficult to tell, but the net result is very creditable to the city. We have been asking—so I am told by the former Board of Commissioners and by Mr. Miles—for a long time for improvements, and we have not had very much, and as Mr. Miles has told you, the time has now come when it is necessary to do a good deal.

Mr. DOCKERY. I want to know whether the 76 errors are generally distributed over the city or are they connected in the main with a few boxes?

Mr. WIGHT. No, sir; those 76 errors are from the entire 18 houses now in use. Every one is reported on that list as having received a bad alarm.

Mr. DOCKERY. But are not the bulk of errors at some particular station house?

Mr. WIGHT. No, sir; I do not think they are noticeable in any particular direction.

Mr. DOCKERY. They are equally distributed?

Mr. WIGHT. Yes, sir; they seem to be all over the city. There is another matter which will be corrected by this system. Mr. Miles has told you we have 12 circuits. Then there are 12 loops, and when these alarms come in from various stations it crowds these circuits too much. There are too many boxes on a circuit. Now, it is proposed by this new system to have 30 circuits.

The CHAIRMAN. Why do you call it a new system? Is it not just an extension?

Mr. WIGHT. It is a new equipment instead of a new system.

The CHAIRMAN. It is a greater equipment than you heretofore had?

Mr. WIGHT. That is all.

Mr. MILES. Enlarging the system both inside and outside.

The CHAIRMAN. I could not understand why you called it a new system.

Mr. WIGHT. That is perhaps incorrect.

Mr. MILES. It is simply enlarging the system out of doors and in the central office.

The CHAIRMAN. Taking the place of the present system?

Mr. MILES. Yes, sir; like a boy who outgrows his clothes; he has to have a new suit.

The CHAIRMAN. I understand; he is not naked?

Mr. MILES. No.

Mr. WIGHT. The battery system is different in this—that is, instead of having acid, bluestone, etc., which are very dirty and expensive to keep, we propose to put in a storage battery which will be run with electricity at a very small cost.

The CHAIRMAN. You give three reasons as to the possibility of error. Do you think there is much error or greater error in your first reason of the men in the repeating, etc., and their attention and discipline?

Mr. WIGHT. No; I do not think there is much error there; there may be some, but the discipline is good. It is excellent in the fire department, and the men are as intelligent as we can get at the price we pay them, and as intelligent as firemen generally are.

The CHAIRMAN. Then your idea is you would attribute those results from the wear out and worn-out condition of affairs?

Mr. WIGHT. Yes; and in crowding the circuits, having 12 instead of 30, as we ought to have, and the possibilities of coming in contact with the wires by men who are working on them, causing these false alarms in the boxes. The men ought to have the assistance of the indicator to give the boxes.

The CHAIRMAN. Your conclusion is that the error comes more largely from that line than elsewhere?

Mr. WIGHT. In the count by the foremen?

The CHAIRMAN. Yes.

Mr. WIGHT. No; I would not say that, but I think that is one reason.

The CHAIRMAN. In view of the fact you claim good discipline, you do not think much error results from that, but that the error results from your other reasons?

Mr. WIGHT. Yes, sir; I think it is more largely the inefficient equipment in the central office and lines—the insufficiency of them.

The CHAIRMAN. How do you use your appropriations, which we will not run back farther than 1895, when it was \$9,000; 1896, \$11,000; 1897, \$11,000, and 1898, \$11,000—how do you use that?

Mr. MILES. The appropriations were used first for paying current expenses of the department, buying chemicals for the batteries, etc., keeping up battery expenses, and then for the necessary repairs of the lines outside.

The CHAIRMAN. You purchase nothing new with this?

Mr. MILES. We purchase new wire now and then. We had during the last two years to take down nearly all of several hundred miles of wire which was put up in 1875, because it was iron wire and it became useless almost, and we have taken down a great share of it and replaced it with new wire we bought from year to year as we could spare the money to do so.

The CHAIRMAN. The appropriation you now receive in the general management of your entire fire-alarm service is an ample appropriation?

Mr. MILES. No; sometimes our appropriations have been rather scant. Sometimes we have postponed imperative improvements for a few months, waiting until the new appropriation would be available. That has been the case sometimes. We sometimes had unexpected expenses to meet—the burning out of a box, and one thing and another.

The CHAIRMAN. You ask for 30 box circuits; what will they cost?

Mr. MILES. Building the circuits costs from—

The CHAIRMAN. You give the sum total here and I want a little division. The 30 box circuits will cost how much?

Mr. WIGHT. I think Mr. Courts has that. I have received this [exhibiting paper] since I saw Mr. Cannon, and this is a more detailed statement.

SPECIFICATIONS AND PROPOSAL FOR A FIRE TELEGRAPH BY THE GAMEWELL FIRE ALARM TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

THE GAMEWELL FIRE ALARM TELEGRAPH COMPANY,
19 Barclay St., New York, N. Y.

For the needed improvements and extensions to the fire-alarm telegraph system of the city of Washington, D. C., we respectfully submit the following specifications. It should be understood, however, that they are only submitted in brief and do not cover a detailed description for the central office.

RELAY BOARD.

The relay board shall have accommodations for thirty (30) signal-box circuits. For each of the 30 circuits there shall be a main-line annunciator box list for indicating each and every circuit on which an alarm originates, and covering the numbers of the boxes on said circuit.

An additional local annunciator for each of the 30 circuits for confirming signals on each circuit.

Thirty (30) four-way plug switches for making proper changes and commutations on the relay board for looping in independent instruments, etc.

Thirty (30) main-line operating relays for printing box signals on the register.

Thirty (30) Morse keys for signalling.

A joker lever with 30 connections for controlling signalling on the joker switch system, embracing a steel-bar locking device.

Thirty (30) auxiliary battery switches for looping in new battery when necessary, and the resistance coils for properly balancing the same.

Two suitable bells for night alarms, one for each section of the board, with cut-out switches for same.

All of the above devices to be mounted upon a cabinet-made case as hereinafter described.

FOR THE MAIN-LINE SWITCH BOARD.

This switch board shall have a capacity for forty (40) circuits, 30 signal-box and 10 alarm circuits.

Each of the box circuits shall be provided with a Brequet galvanometer for indicating at all times the electrical condition of the circuit, and the necessary number of switches for making proper commutations.

Thirty (30) anvil-contact terminals, with connecting ground bar for same.

Thirty (30) looping-in spring-jack switches for looping and testing the circuits and instruments.

For each of the ten (10) alarm circuits there shall be a suitable number of switches with yoke bar for controlling transmission of signals, and jack switch and plugs for connecting testing instruments, battery anvils, with ground bar and single terminal anvils for main line with ground bar.

All of the above to be properly mounted in a cabinet case as hereinafter described.

COMBINATION PROTECTOR BOARD.

A combination protector board for forty (40) circuits. Each circuit shall have double protection, using for this purpose two plush protectors for each circuit to open the line, two fuse tubes for each circuit for protecting against sneak currents; also lightning arresters, terminals, and plates for same.

There shall be two circular or oval ground-test switches on the protector board for the right or left of the 40 circuits, with one or more central switch levers for controlling same.

All of the above to be properly mounted in a cabinet case, hereinafter described.

CENTRAL OFFICE INSTRUMENTS.

The central office instruments shall consist of one 30-pen register for receiving the alarms over each signal circuit. Said instruments shall be mounted upon a marbleized slate base with beveled-edge glass case, and placed upon a suitable table platform, hereinafter described.

Also a 10-pen register for confirming the alarms sent out over the alarm circuits, mounted upon marbleized slate base with beveled-edge plate-glass case, and properly placed upon a suitable table, hereinafter described.

Also an automatic line-testing instrument, with annunciators for testing 30 box circuits and 10 gong circuits, and arranged to test each circuit automatically every 20 minutes, and provided with a clock to operate said line-testing instrument.

Also an instrument having the chime of bells connected therewith, for use in connection with the 10-pen alarm register.

Also a suitable table of proper size for mounting the present manual repeater, as hereinafter described.

Also a special joker combination instrument for transmitting the alarms direct from the box circuits to the alarm circuits, with necessary switches for operating same, mounted on marbleized slate base, with beveled-edge plate-glass case over same, and set up on a suitable table, as hereinafter described.

Also one combined free-for-all galvanometer and alarm-circuit indicator, mounted in woodwork, with suitable glass case for same.

CABINET WORK.

The cabinetwork for the central office shall be of suitable hard wood, finely finished, either in oak or mahogany, as preferred, and of sufficient size to carry the devices named for each section or board.

The cabinet cases or frames are to be fitted with the necessary shelves and recesses, which are to be provided with beveled-edge plate-glass panels, and the front and top of said frames to be carved with appropriate designs, having coat of arms, if desired, in the center of the top frame.

The tables or pedestals for the central office instruments shall be of hard wood, oak or mahogany, finely finished, and with suitable moldings. The front or inside of said tables to be handsomely finished in panels by pilasters resting on bases with ornamented caps, with brass hinges and screws for folding doors, or provided with sliding panels, if preferred.

STORAGE BATTERY.

We also propose to change the present system of gravity batteries, and to replace same with a storage-battery system large enough to provide for the circuits that will be first used. The storage cells shall be of the chloride accumulator type, B3 pattern. Said cells shall be properly arranged and insulated on suitable battery stands, and arranged in proper proportion to each circuit, in duplicate.

The controlling board shall consist of our best standard automatic system of switch board, arranged in units of 10 circuits, and provided with all the automatic features for convenient use, and thoroughly safe-guarded with necessary apparatus furnished by this company for that use.

BOXES.

We also propose to furnish one hundred (100) of our latest improved standard non-interference fire-alarm signal boxes, provided with porcelain cut-out bases and porcelain lightning-arrester bases.

Also, to furnish sixty (60) similar boxes in place of 60 old boxes now in use.

We also agree to furnish eighty (80) of the Gardiner boxes in use by the city with 80 of our standard cut-outs, for the absolute protection of such boxes from dynamo and other currents.

ENGINE-HOUSE EQUIPMENT.

We agree to furnish twenty (20) of our visual indicators, one for each engine house, and properly connected to the system.

The joker outfit for each of the 20 engine houses shall consist of a desk or table with dust-proof glass case for protecting the register, sounder, or call bell, and polarized relay; also answer-back or tap key.

The woodwork of table or desk shall be made of hard wood nicely finished, and desks shall be properly connected to the fire-alarm system.

All the above instruments and apparatus are to be set up and connected by us in perfect working order with the various signal-box and engine-house circuits erected and connected by the city; and all of the above material and work to be furnished and performed in strict accordance with these specifications, and completed on or before the day for the sum of fifty thousand (\$50,000) dollars.

Mr. MILES. The Gamewell Company made that up, and not myself. If I had made it directly I could answer off hand.

The CHAIRMAN. I wanted to get some division of that.

Mr. WIGHT. I can not give it by items, but it is what they propose to furnish.

The CHAIRMAN. That is their offer to you?

Mr. WIGHT. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. This is the system you desire to put up, and I understand it is in use in large cities?

Mr. WIGHT. It is the only system I know of that is reliable. I can get you any details you wish.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, in regard to your storage battery-system. What is your system at present?

Mr. WIGHT. We have the acid system, the gravity battery, which requires a great many cells and a great deal of handling, and is a very expensive system. What does it cost, Mr. Miles?

Mr. MILES. It costs to keep up the battery system from \$1,200 to \$1,400 a year.

Mr. WIGHT. (To Mr. Miles.) Now, the new system would cost how much? I understand from \$50 to \$100, simply for the electric current we use.

The CHAIRMAN. You consider the storage-battery system very much better than the gravity-battery system?

Mr. WIGHT. Very much, in every way.

The CHAIRMAN. And better for the correction of errors in every form?

Mr. WIGHT. No—

The CHAIRMAN. In what way is it better?

Mr. WIGHT. It is very much better, more efficient and more economical.

The CHAIRMAN. And the gravity battery system is the system you have always had?

Mr. WIGHT. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. And the storage batteries are more modern?

Mr. WIGHT. Yes, sir; and I am told by everybody who has used the storage battery that it is more economical after you get the plant installed.

The CHAIRMAN. When were the 60 old fire-alarm boxes put in?

Mr. MILES. They were put in in 1875.

The CHAIRMAN. And they are your oldest? When you drop out your 60 old fire-alarm boxes will you have cleaned out the old system entirely?

Mr. MILES. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. And then all the boxes that you now add will be consistent with the boxes you have put in since then?

Mr. MILES. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Then your system will be complete with one line of boxes?

Mr. MILES. That is right.

Mr. WIGHT. They allow us a credit of \$25 each on the old boxes, so that we call for \$6,000 instead of \$7,500, as they would be at the regular price.

The CHAIRMAN. You ask for 100 additional boxes for use in the outlying suburbs. What have you now in the outlying districts?

Mr. MILES. We have in the neighborhood of 35 in the outlying districts now.

The CHAIRMAN. You propose to allow them to remain?

Mr. MILES. Yes, sir; they are new boxes.

The CHAIRMAN. You ask for 100 additional. Is not that a pretty liberal allowance?

Mr. MILES. If you would like to hear I would tell you where it would be advisable to put them.

The CHAIRMAN. I hardly think we would know, but you might read it.

Mr. MILES. We propose to divide them between the north and south, say Tennallytown, near the District line, clear over to the Anacostia suburbs, through there, and from Takoma Park this way—

The CHAIRMAN. That is general, of course. The only question in my mind would be as to the necessity of this great increase.

Mr. WIGHT. This is an accumulation of what we have been asking for several years and could not get. We have each year asked for an extension of the number of boxes and you have never granted what we have asked for, so we have been accumulating from year to year until we have reached this number, and you are probably familiar with the growth of the county out here—

The CHAIRMAN. I recognize the fact if you are going to govern the city as to protection against fire you ought to have the means to do it with, and of course the city grows, and the only question in my mind is in regard to such a percentage of increase.

Mr. DOCKERY. Have you not had an increase in fire boxes heretofore?

Mr. WIGHT. We have had some, but not what we have asked for.

Mr. DOCKERY. What is the estimate for 100 fire boxes here?

The CHAIRMAN. They ask for 100 boxes for use in outlying suburbs. How many have you, all told?

Mr. WIGHT. Two hundred and thirty-two. That would cost \$12,500—\$125 each.

Mr. ALLEN. It would be an addition this year of nearly 33½ per cent.

Mr. MILES. Now, another reason for putting the boxes in the suburbs we want them to be put is that water for subduing fires has been extended to all that section of the country, and it seems to me they ought to have the protection of the fire-alarm boxes.

The CHAIRMAN. The visual indicator would take the place of what you call the two men on duty?

Mr. WIGHT. It would be an addition to it; they would still count the gong.

The CHAIRMAN. But the visual indicator would be there to corroborate it?

Mr. WIGHT. Yes, sir.

Mr. MILES. And if they miscount they would like to see it with their eyes.

Mr. ALLEN. Has this telegraph system any connection with the police system?

Mr. WIGHT. The fire-alarm boxes—do you use the wires in connection with the police stations at all?

Mr. MILES. No, sir; they are separate wires.

The CHAIRMAN. A police call is different from the fire call?

Mr. MILES. Yes, sir; and on different wires, and different instruments, and different everything.

The CHAIRMAN. And go to different places?

Mr. MILES. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. I think I have asked all I desire. Have you anything you desire to submit other than we have inquired about?

Mr. WIGHT. Only I would like to leave that book with you for what you think it is worth. This book contains testimonials from the various cities—

The CHAIRMAN. I know; we have the system in my city.

Mr. WIGHT. You have it and Mr. Dockery has it in his city, and I think they are a very reliable firm. We had a letter referred to us by Mr. Cannon from a man named Mr. May, but I do not know who he is. I can not find out anything about him.

The CHAIRMAN (reading). "For storage-battery system, to take the place of the gravity-battery system now in use, \$3,500." From where do you get the storage-battery system?

Mr. MILES. The Gamewell Company would furnish everything except the charging of it.

The CHAIRMAN. The Gamewell. Then it is one of their scheduled articles for sale?

Mr. MILES. Yes, sir; one of their scheduled articles for sale.

The CHAIRMAN. And you get the schedule figure, and get the discount, and all?

Mr. MILES. Yes; you see, the storage battery for such purposes is comparatively new.

Mr. DOCKERY. You say it is comparatively new?

Mr. MILES. Well, I use the word cautiously, comparatively new. It will be directly new with us.

Mr. DOCKERY. How long has it been in use elsewhere?

Mr. MILES. That I do not know, Mr. Dockery.

Mr. DOCKERY. What is the defect in the gravity-battery system?

Mr. MILES. There is no defect about the system, only it is more expensive.

Mr. DOCKERY. You have got it now?

The CHAIRMAN. They have had it since 1875, but they do not consider it as good a system as against the modern system.

Mr. DOCKERY. But this storage-battery system is a new system, and what I want to know is how long has it been in use?

Mr. MILES. That I can not tell you.

Mr. DOCKERY. A very material point in reaching a correct judgment would be to know how long it has been in use, so as to impartially determine whether it has had a fair trial.

Mr. MILES. I think it has been in use for four or five or six years.

The CHAIRMAN. It is in use in large cities?

Mr. WIGHT. Here is a list of places where it is in use. I have seen it in Boston, Pittsburg—

The CHAIRMAN. State again, so Mr. Dockery can hear you, the relation of economy between one system and the other.

Mr. MILES. I am told by those who have used it—persons connected with fire alarms coming from other cities calling at my office—those who have used the storage battery say it does not cost more than 25 per cent annually to run as against the gravity system.

Mr. WIGHT. The fact is these electric-light people here, who get the use of our streets for nothing, ought to be made to give all the power we want for such a system. They pay no taxes and nothing at all for the privilege of using our city.

The CHAIRMAN. In the general administration of your service what do you believe is the cost of the maintenance of your gravity battery system?

Mr. MILES. The cost of that system has been, as I remarked a little while ago, from \$1,200 to \$1,400 per annum.

The CHAIRMAN. And this new system would be 25 per cent of that?

Mr. MILES. As I have been informed, and, I believe, credibly so.

Mr. WIGHT. Probably less than that.

Mr. DOCKERY. What does it cost to install the gravity system?

Mr. MILES. \$3,500.

Mr. DOCKERY. Is that the original cost of the present system?

Mr. MILES. No, sir; the original cost of the present system is nothing like so much as that.

Mr. DOCKERY. That is what I asked you. What did it cost to install the gravity battery system?

Mr. MILES. The cost of installing the gravity battery system is about \$1 per cell, and we have in the central office 500 cells.

Mr. DOCKERY. There is an estimate of \$3,500 for the new system. What did it cost to install the old system?

Mr. MILES. To install the old system for 30 circuits would be \$1,500, perhaps.

Mr. DOCKERY. As the system is to-day?

Mr. MILES. Yes, sir; and increase the number of circuits.

The CHAIRMAN. The gravity battery system is a system which is a part of the original system of the fire alarm established in 1875. Now, our service is a different service from what it was then and—

Mr. DOCKERY. But here is a proposition to put in a storage battery system which has been conspicuous by its failures. For instance, the Metropolitan Railroad Company tried it, and the storage battery system has failed a great many times elsewhere. Whether it failed here or not I do not know.

Mr. MILES. I agree with you that it has been a failure in street-car lines.

Mr. DOCKERY. The Metropolitan put a million dollars in it nearly, trying to make the thing work, and I wanted to ask you—and I have not got the information yet—how long this storage battery system has been in existence, and you say you think it is five or six years?

Mr. MILES. I think so.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there anything in the Gamewell exhibit which shows that?

Mr. WIGHT. No, sir; but I will write and get that information.

Mr. DOCKERY. It is material to know if they have tried it for one, two, or three years; we want to see if they have tried it.

The CHAIRMAN. We not only want to know when established, but where established.

Mr. MILES. That is in this book which shows the cities in which it is now in use, and testimonials from those cities as to it.

The CHAIRMAN. From the Treasury Department, Document No. 366, we have an estimate for an additional story on the engine house on Eighth street between D and E streets NW., \$6,000.

Mr. WIGHT. The quarters allowed this important branch of the District service are very small and cramped in the top story of the building which we are now renting. We pay \$9,000 a year for the entire building, and we are so crowded we have got to move the police department out, and this place is a little bit—

The CHAIRMAN. This is the engine house—

Mr. WIGHT. No; where the fire-alarm headquarters are now it is very small. We are willing, for the sake of economy, to make that arrangement to put a story on that engine house and move them over there.

The CHAIRMAN. When you do that, what do you vacate?

Mr. WIGHT. Two small rooms.

The CHAIRMAN. You do not reduce rentals at all?

Mr. WIGHT. Rental will continue, because we will move other crowded departments into the rooms that will be vacated by Mr. Miles, and we very much need them. Some departments are very much crowded in that building now.

The CHAIRMAN. Where is that?

Mr. WIGHT. It is on Louisiana avenue.

The CHAIRMAN. I understand.

Mr. WIGHT. We want, of course, a municipal building sometime in the District of Columbia; but that is not in sight at all now, as it will take a number of years to buy and get it. Now, this is to make the engine house, located on Eighth street between D and E—

The CHAIRMAN. How many stories?

Mr. WIGHT. Two stories.

The CHAIRMAN. And it is not completed?

Mr. WIGHT. It is being completed; the roof is on.

The CHAIRMAN. What is the cost?

Mr. WIGHT. I can not tell you.

The CHAIRMAN. Will it take the \$6,000?

Mr. WIGHT. That is the building inspector's estimate.

The CHAIRMAN. For additional story, \$6,000?

Mr. WIGHT. This additional room will be about 31 feet wide by about 54 feet long. We will have to raise the roof and put an air chamber there, because these men are in it night and day, and there must be some provision for its not getting too hot.

The CHAIRMAN. You want the usual building construction, of course. Have you carefully reviewed that estimate of \$6,000?

Mr. WIGHT. I have looked over it, but I am not expert in these matters.

The CHAIRMAN. Did this impress you as being a large sum?

Mr. WIGHT. No, sir; that is the estimate for which we have asked for putting additional stories on police stations, \$6,000 each.

The CHAIRMAN. Did the committee give them to you?

Mr. WIGHT. The Senate has given \$5,000 for each house, and they are not so large as this engine house, and not so much material used, or time.

The CHAIRMAN. Then the purpose of this addendum to your engine house is simply to relieve your present city headquarters by a certain amount of work there being done and transfer it to this engine house, and that work is the fire-alarm headquarters' work?

Mr. WIGHT. Yes, sir; it gives the fire-alarm headquarters this location.

The CHAIRMAN. You move them out entirely, and make this their headquarters?

Mr. WIGHT. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you regard this as a necessity?

Mr. WIGHT. Why, I think so. We have not the room, and can not give them the room where they now are for this enlargement of the service. They will have to move some time, and this will be a permanent location for them. It is entirely central.

The CHAIRMAN. And is the best?

Mr. WIGHT. It is the best we can think of. It is about where we will have the municipal building, if we have one, in that immediate neighborhood. I would be very glad if any of you gentlemen will allow me to take you up there and show you the room we now have. I might stop by for you in my carriage before you come up to the Capitol some time.

The CHAIRMAN. There is a general familiarity with buildings of that character.

Mr. WIGHT. With the general equipment we have upstairs I am sure you will be convinced—

The CHAIRMAN. We could think about that.

Mr. WIGHT. Any time I will be glad to call for you in my carriage and you can stop on your way up to the Capitol and look in.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you anything more to say?

Mr. WIGHT. No, sir; I think not.

Mr. MILES. I would like to make a suggestion in regard to the moving. I have been connected with this service for thirty years, and during that time I have moved that office from one place to another six times, and it is an immense amount of work and it is a great expense to move from place to place, and if you would give us a place where we could stay permanently, as we could probably there, it would be a matter of economy in the long run.

Mr. ALLEN. Where is this location you propose to put it?

Mr. WIGHT. It is on Eighth street, between D and E.

Thereupon the subcommittee adjourned.

SATURDAY, May 7, 1898.

The subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations, having under consideration the general deficiency bill, this day met, Hon. Joseph G. Cannon in the chair.

NAVAL ESTABLISHMENT.

STEAM ENGINEERING.

STATEMENT OF COMMODORE GEORGE W. MELVILLE, CHIEF OF BUREAU OF STEAM ENGINEERING.

The CHAIRMAN. You have had for the current year for the Bureau of Steam Engineering \$735,000, and you have had a deficiency of \$250,000 heretofore provided for.

Commodore MELVILLE. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. This estimate is for \$1,245,000?

Commodore MELVILLE. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. What was the allotment to your Bureau, if anything, from the extraordinary appropriation of \$50,000,000?

Commodore MELVILLE. I had about \$400,000. If I had supposed you wanted that of course I could have brought the figures.

The CHAIRMAN. Your estimate for the balance of this fiscal year is \$1,245,000?

Commodore MELVILLE. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Has all of this amount appropriated been expended for the current year, including the \$250,000 deficiency and \$400,000 allotted from the \$50,000,000 appropriation?

Commodore MELVILLE. Yes, sir; it will close up this month of April when we get the rest of the bills in.

The CHAIRMAN. You mean you will have enough to pay all the bills and all contracts made to the first of May?

Commodore MELVILLE. The amount I have received from the national defense fund was about \$400,000, and my balance on my regular annual appropriation was exhausted on the 1st, or about the 1st, day of May, so that for the months of May and June, basing our expenditures for the next two months on what I have spent in the past two months, it will require about \$623,500 per month, making a total of \$1,245,000, which I have asked for to carry me through this fiscal year. In other words, the \$450,000 I got from the national defense fund and the other appropriation of money due my bureau were exhausted about the 1st of May.

The CHAIRMAN. These expenditures are current in your Bureau?

Commodore MELVILLE. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. That is, they do not involve contracts that are to mature six, twelve, or eighteen months from now?

Commodore MELVILLE. No, sir. For instance, I can give you some items, and I will leave with you this paper containing some notes I have prepared for you.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *April 29, 1898.*

SIR: I have to inform the Department that the allotments made for this Bureau from the national-defense fund are practically exhausted, and that the current appropriation "Steam machinery" is nearly so. It therefore becomes necessary for this Bureau to have an additional amount appropriated to carry on the work under its cognizance for this fiscal year.

The estimates are as follows:

For fitting out the <i>Vulcan</i> with tools and supplies as a repair ship	\$75, 000
For fitting out the <i>Menemsha</i> as a distilling plant	50, 000
For purchase and fitting out of another vessel as a distilling plant	350, 000
For repairs and stores in fitting out purchased vessels and naval vessels now at navy-yards	450, 000
For purchase of supplies and stores and repair of vessels in commission ..	300, 000
For repairs and fittings of tools at navy-yards	20, 000
Total amount required	1, 245, 000

All this amount of \$1,245,000 should be at once appropriated, as it is now required for work being pushed to completion for the national defense, and the Bureau should have the amount to its credit so that there may be no embarrassment in at once ordering necessary material and proceeding with the preparation of vessels for service with the utmost dispatch.

Very respectfully,

GEO. W. MELVILLE,
Engineer in Chief, U. S. N., Chief of Bureau.

The SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

The CHAIRMAN. These appropriations have been somewhat extraordinary, however, on account of the new ships purchased, etc.

Commodore MELVILLE. There are the alterations, changes, fittings, etc.

The CHAIRMAN. And also changes in our steamers which have been taken, etc. Do you anticipate for the coming two months they will be so large as for the last two months?

Commodore MELVILLE. Yes, sir; because a whole lot of vessels have been purchased which were considered in pretty good condition when purchased, and we do not know what repairs may be required on those ships, and that will run up our expenditures considerably. Then, again, we have a lot of those ships which have been sent to different navy-yards not connected with the Government navy-yards, and those bills have got to come in yet, and we have not got those bills. There are ships being repaired at Cramps's, the Quintard Iron Works, at the Morgan Iron Works in New York, at the Newport News shipbuilding yards, and we have not those bills in yet.

The CHAIRMAN. And these repairs are being made without reference to the allotment of \$400,000 from the emergency fund or the appropriations for the current year?

Commodore MELVILLE. That has all been expended.

The CHAIRMAN. When you speak of being expended, you mean the work has been done and paid for?

Commodore MELVILLE. We have appropriated our money for the repairs that have been made during the last month at the rate of \$625,000 per month and—

The CHAIRMAN. Well, let me see if I understand you. You speak now of the repairs at Cramps and the Newport News yard?

Commodore MELVILLE. That will be for the next two months—for the months of May and June, for instance.

Mr. SAYERS. And will come out of this appropriation?

Commodore MELVILLE. Out of the one we are asking for my bureau.

The CHAIRMAN. And were entered upon without reference to the allotment of the emergency fund or reference to the appropriations for the current year?

Commodore MELVILLE. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Are you able to say this \$1,245,000 will be enough?

Commodore MELVILLE. We feel as though we could carry through our work for those two months, but besides that we will have another estimate, which will come before you, of about \$750,000 a month for my bureau alone, or about \$9,000,000 for the next year, less about \$1,000,000 you have appropriated for our current expenditures for the next year.

The CHAIRMAN. A million in round numbers?

Commodore MELVILLE. Yes, sir; nearly a million dollars.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, this \$990,000 is all available for that matter?

Commodore MELVILLE. Is to be made immediately available.

The CHAIRMAN. It can be in the discretion of the President, and I take it for granted he will make all the appropriations in the regular naval bill for the coming year available at once. Now, we want in this matter not only the deficiency for this year, but we would like two estimates—one for the amount necessary to the first of January next for the coming fiscal year, and then the amount estimated for the remaining six months of the coming fiscal year.

Commodore MELVILLE. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. That you have not?

Commodore MELVILLE. I have not submitted it to you, but I have submitted it to the Secretary. That is the letter, here; \$750,000 a month from July to January, or \$750,000 multiplied by 6 would give that amount approximately up to January.

Mr. SAYERS. You need that in addition to the appropriation in the regular bill?

Commodore MELVILLE. In addition to the appropriation which amounts to nearly \$1,000,000—\$990,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, I want to ask you another question. Suppose it was the sense of Congress to make this extraordinary appropriation—the war appropriation—sufficient before adjournment to meet the expenditures until the first of January next, leaving nothing in the appropriation to care for the public service after that time. In your Bureau there would be no embarrassment in that matter, I would take it, providing Congress made the appropriation in time?

Commodore MELVILLE. Yes, sir; no trouble at all.

The CHAIRMAN. In other words, yours is purely current work?

Commodore MELVILLE. In other words, Mr. Chairman, my letter to the Secretary, which you have here, asks for \$9,000,000, less the \$1,000,000 I spoke of, making \$8,000,000, or \$750,000 a month for the whole year. Now, if we get six months of that, we will run on without any trouble at all until the first of January. The very thing you have been asking for is in that letter.

The CHAIRMAN. I wish, Commodore, when you go back to the Department that, in addition to this communication, you would write a formal letter to the Secretary of the Navy showing how much will be required per month, covering the coming fiscal year, for the first six months and second six months, and forward it to us in the shape of a supplemental estimate.

Commodore MELVILLE. All right, sir; there is no trouble about that. I had already done that.

The CHAIRMAN. No; it has not been done by your bureau. You only deal in your estimates for the two months of this year.

Commodore MELVILLE. Unfortunately that has not been sent to you in time. I had that prepared for the Secretary, after hours, a couple of days ago.

The CHAIRMAN. That is coming?

Commodore MELVILLE. Yes, sir. I think that is the very information you ask for.

The CHAIRMAN. Let us read that:

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 3, 1898.

SIR: Replying to the Department's letter of even date, to estimate for expenditures in this Bureau for the fiscal year 1898-99, in addition to the provisions of the naval appropriation bill, I have the honor to state that, taking the experience of the expenditures of this Bureau during the month of April in preparations for the national defense, I estimate that it will require \$750,000 per month for expenditures for purposes under the cognizance of this Bureau, in view of the exigencies of war. Should the war continue for twelve months, it would require for the fiscal year \$9,000,000; deducting from this amount the amount of \$990,000, provided for in the naval appropriation bill, leaves a balance yet to be provided for of \$8,010,000.

Very respectfully,

GEO. W. MELVILLE,
Engineer in Chief, U. S. N., Chief of Bureau.

The SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

GEN DEFIC—7

The CHAIRMAN. In other words, up to the 1st of January next you would want \$4,000,000?

Commodore MELVILLE. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. If this is coming in regular form we will just keep this if you have a duplicate, and then it will come in the regular form, so as to keep our estimates in proper shape.

Commodore MELVILLE. This is in the Secretary's hands, and I supposed you had it here.

Mr. SAYERS. Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask him a question. Under this appropriation could you use any portion of it after the 1st of July to meet liabilities which have been contracted during this fiscal year?

Commodore MELVILLE. I imagine we could, sir.

Mr. SAYERS. Is there any trouble about that?

Commodore MELVILLE. I do not think there would be, sir.

Mr. SAYERS. We want to know whether we shall make this continuing until exhausted, so you may have no trouble with the accounting officers of the Treasury?

Commodore MELVILLE. Yes, sir; the only difficulty would be there are a great many bills being incurred with private shipbuilding yards for which we have not yet had the bills rendered, and probably it would be well to make it that way if possible.

Mr. SAYERS. What we want to do, speaking for myself, is to make all the appropriations available to meet the actual liabilities incurred during this fiscal year.

Commodore MELVILLE. If you can do that, you will help us out very much.

Mr. SAYERS. Because it is but just that the liabilities of the present fiscal year should be carried by appropriations for the present fiscal year. It makes no difference with the Treasury.

Commodore MELVILLE. It would be a good deal better if you make it that way. It would be no embarrassment to my Bureau if we have our money appropriated for six months at a time, as Mr. Cannon proposes—no embarrassment at all—but we would like to have the appropriation made continuous, so that if we have any surplus these next two months we could carry it over into the next year, and it is because of the uncertainty of the bills that will come in from the private shipbuilding yards. The navy-yard bills we can keep up with; there is no trouble there at all, as the estimates, etc., are sent to us once every week. In addition to that, if you want anything else I will be glad to have it prepared for you.

The CHAIRMAN. Let us see; I think I can make this calculation. With the \$990,000 that comes in the coming fiscal year—

Commodore MELVILLE. That we would have had without any war business at all.

The CHAIRMAN. You would have had that without any war business. Now it will take \$750,000 per month to run your bureau?

Commodore MELVILLE. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. That would amount to \$4,500,000 up to the 1st of January?

Commodore MELVILLE. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Now from that \$4,500,000 can be deducted \$990,000?

Commodore MELVILLE. One-half, sir. Aside from the regular appropriation I have asked for \$8,000,000 for the whole year and \$4,000,000 for the half year; and I would go on using my \$990,000 for the whole continuous year, one-half of which I could expend by the 1st of January.

The CHAIRMAN. But you could expend all by the 1st of January, if required. Suppose it was the sense of Congress to just run you until the 1st of January; if that was the sense of Congress, \$4,500,000 could be decreased \$990,000 and you would have money enough to run you until the 1st of January?

Commodore MELVILLE. Not according to our calculations. We would be \$450,000 out. My expenditures show I am using \$750,000 a month—

The CHAIRMAN. Oh, I see; it is in addition to the provision in the naval appropriation bill, etc.

Commodore MELVILLE. Yes; that is in addition to my current appropriation.

The CHAIRMAN. I think this letter makes it pretty clear. This letter will come to us in regular shape?

Commodore MELVILLE. If there is any other information I will be glad to send it on. I made my estimate a little modest because I felt as though we had not get down to hard knocks yet and we did not know what would occur in the future, but as it is running now that will carry us on nicely.

Mr. SAYERS. I want to ask the Commodore a question. Commodore, in your charter-party contracts, for instance, where you make a contract with a private party for a ship, do those contracts generally contain a clause which requires the Government to make repairs?

Commodore MELVILLE. Yes, sir; although I have not made any contracts of that kind, I understand that is the way.

Mr. SAYERS. So that the expense of keeping such vessels in repair as well as the regular Government vessels—

Commodore MELVILLE. Falls on the Bureau of Construction and Repair of the Navy Department for the hulls and the Bureau of Steam Engineering for the steam department.

Commander O'NEIL. Excuse me, but I have had something to do about it in making a charter recently for the *City of Peking* on the Pacific coast, which is to the effect that the company should maintain the vessel in all respects, keep her in repair, and maintain her in all respects, pay the crew and everything, except providing fuel.

Mr. SAYERS. But does the Government have to reimburse them for the expenses of repairing?

Commander O'NEIL. No, sir; that is included in the charter of the vessel at so much per day. That relates to the *City of Peking*. I do not know how it is about the others. I happen to know about her case, as I had something to do with that, and the owners are obliged to keep her in order and repair, except a portion of supplies that must be furnished by the Government.

The CHAIRMAN. What bureau has charge of that?

Commander O'NEIL. The Paymaster-General makes the contracts.

Mr. SAYERS. Do you know whether this feature in the contract which obtains with *The Peking* obtains in the other contracts?

Commander O'NEIL. No, I just happen to know about that because I had something to do with her.

Commodore MELVILLE. I think there are but four others chartered—the American Line Steamship Company. The others are nearly all purchased outright.

BUREAU OF NAVIGATION.

STATEMENT OF CAPT. A. S. CROWNINSHIELD, CHIEF OF BUREAU OF NAVIGATION.

The CHAIRMAN. Your item is: "Coast signal system, Bureau of Navigation: For continuing the coast signal system during May and June, 1898, \$75,000." Is it a new service?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. It is a new service necessitated by the war.

Mr. SAYERS. It has nothing to do with your regular appropriation?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. Not at all.

The CHAIRMAN. When did you begin this; a couple of months ago?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. I should think it was six weeks ago.

The CHAIRMAN. What allotment have you had from the emergency fund?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. We had \$75,000 first.

The CHAIRMAN. Then you had another allotment?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. No; we asked for another one, and we asked for more than that, too, to maintain it.

The CHAIRMAN. Is \$75,000 all you had?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. Yes, sir; that is, simply to build stations and establish the system, and that was not enough to do that, even, and we asked for another \$75,000.

The CHAIRMAN. You ask that in this estimate?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. Yes. These two \$75,000—the \$75,000 granted and the \$75,000 we asked for—would establish and keep it going for two months. That is what we estimate.

The CHAIRMAN. Is it completely established now?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. It will be, it will be completely established when this money—

The CHAIRMAN. You mean with this \$150,000?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. Yes, sir; we expect to do it with that.

The CHAIRMAN. Then there is no more expense for installation?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. No, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, have you anything in the regular naval bill for this service?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. No, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Are you going to continue it after the 1st of July.

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. Oh, yes; as long as the war lasts.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you made any estimate as to the expense of maintaining this service which will be established by the 1st of July?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. We think up to the 1st of January it would take \$150,000 more to pay the salaries of people and expense of telegraphing—telegraph bills.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you made a formal estimate to the Secretary?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you got the letter here?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. No, sir. I have only a memorandum here.

The CHAIRMAN. When did you do that—yesterday?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. It was done a day or two ago.

The CHAIRMAN. It has not reached this place yet?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. No, sir. We also made a request for more money for transportation, recruiting, and contingent. That is one of our regular appropriations, and this year it was \$45,000.

The CHAIRMAN. But for the coast signal system you estimate it will take how much altogether?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. In other words, it will take altogether about \$300,000 to establish and maintain it.

The CHAIRMAN. What is this coast signal service?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. We propose to establish a lot of stations all along the country at light-houses and other places for obtaining information and establishing signal stations where vessels can communicate and telegraph from those stations to the Navy Department, so as to get the information.

The CHAIRMAN. Purely a war expenditure?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. Oh, entirely.

The CHAIRMAN. When the war is over, the service will be discontinued?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. This \$150,000 for the first six months is substantially the salary account, is it not?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. These men would be enlisted and it would include their food. They will be enlisted from the naval militia principally, but they will have to be paid salaries.

The CHAIRMAN. Not appointed as civilian employees?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. Oh no, sir; they are regularly enlisted.

The CHAIRMAN. But enlisted for that service?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. For that particular service.

The CHAIRMAN. Practically it includes telegraphers?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. They have got to be telegraphers, but a part of the bills, Mr. Cannon, will be for telegraph bills, as the telegraph companies will charge for the service.

The CHAIRMAN. But I was trying to get the personnel of your salary list.

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. Some of them are men who can telegraph and others are men who can signal and keep lookout.

The CHAIRMAN. Can you enlist this class of men you speak of in the naval reserve?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. You have to enlist those people for that service?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. When they enlist in the Navy we can detail them to any service. They become a part of the personnel of the Navy as well as anybody else.

The CHAIRMAN. Will you be able to enlist telegraphers, for instance, in the Navy at the pay, and detail them? I should think not.

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. We can either do that or else make arrangements. If we can not do that we can make arrangements with the telegraph companies to furnish the service, and they will include that in their bills, I suppose. They will furnish the operators.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, you speak of some other estimate?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. For transportation, recruiting, and contingent. The regular appropriation for that is \$45,000.

The CHAIRMAN. That you have for the current year?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. Yes, sir.

Mr. SAYERS. You do not ask that in this urgent deficiency?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. No, sir; but we ask—

The CHAIRMAN. Have you anything for transportation, recruiting, and contingent?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. That is an item in the regular naval appropriation bill.

The CHAIRMAN. What did you have for the current year?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. Forty-five thousand dollars, and it has been that for several years.

The CHAIRMAN. Did you have any deficiency?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. Oh, yes; we certainly will have a deficiency.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you know how much?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. We estimate we want about \$295,000 more.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you mean until the 1st of January or to the 1st of July next?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. That would be until the 1st of July next.

The CHAIRMAN. That is the current year, is it?

Mr. SAYERS. Let me understand it?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. Instead of \$45,000, in view of the large possible increase in the Navy, and in view of the greater distance we have to carry the men, our estimate would be \$340,000.

The CHAIRMAN. You had \$45,000 in the Bureau of Navigation for transportation, recruiting, and contingent for this year, the current fiscal year, which expires on the 30th of June next?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. Yes, sir; and \$45,000 for the next year.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, the amount of \$45,000 for this fiscal year, not the next, is unexpended?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. I could not tell exactly, but I am quite sure it is all expended.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you expended more than that? You are not prepared to state that?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. I could not state exactly what we want for the rest of this fiscal year.

The CHAIRMAN. You have got this point. You make an estimate. You need \$75,000 for the coast signal system—

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. I thought you meant about the recruiting and transportation item.

The CHAIRMAN. You speak of recruiting and transportation. Under the head of pay of the Navy there is a provision in the current act which is immediately available:

"To enable the Secretary of the Navy to enlist, at any time after the passage of this act, as many additional seamen, landsmen, and boys as he may deem necessary to man the ships of the Navy, or in use by the Navy, as a temporary force therefor during the existing war, and for the pay of the same, and of the temporary additional officers and warrant machinists hereinbefore authorized, \$8,830,000."

Now, are not these enlistments in all the bureaus, including yours, payable from that appropriation?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. No, sir. The item I refer to is an entirely different item from that. On page 2 of the naval act is an item for transportation, recruiting, and contingent, and there follows a definition of what is required under that heading. Now, that is rent of rendezvous, expenses of maintaining the same, advertising for men and boys, transportation of enlisted men, etc. It is principally for the transportation of men.

The CHAIRMAN. Why can not it be paid from that item?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. We estimate that \$45,000 is not going to be enough, on account of the large increase.

The CHAIRMAN. You are speaking of the Bureau of Navigation now, independent of the coast signal service?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. It seems to me we can dismiss the coast signal service with the \$75,000?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. That is up to the 1st of July.

The CHAIRMAN. And to the 1st of January it is \$150,000 for the coast signal service?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. That can not be paid from any appropriation that the regular bill carries, hence it must be made here if it is carried on?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. You are the head of the Bureau of Navigation?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. The Bureau of Navigation has not submitted to us any further estimate than this. This is the only one we have got.

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. It has been submitted to the Secretary—it has not reached the committee.

The CHAIRMAN. When did you submit it to the Secretary?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. A day or two ago.

The CHAIRMAN. This seems to have been submitted May 4. You have not submitted anything since then?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. No; I guess not.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, you will bear in mind this: If you are going to need any more money for the Bureau of Navigation for any purpose whatever for this fiscal year or the first six months of the next fiscal year in addition to what you have already spent, I wish you—

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. You only say for the next six months. You do not want it for the fiscal year?

The CHAIRMAN. You can make it for the whole of the next fiscal year and the first six months. You may make them separate if you choose.

Mr. SAYERS. Let me suggest that you make it for the whole fiscal year, and then say how much of that will be necessary for the first six months.

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. And that includes the whole service of the Bureau of Navigation?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. Yes; that is it.

Mr. SAYERS. You have to get it pretty soon. You have nothing here but one single item that is before us.

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. I am quite sure this was sent to the Secretary. I will send this up this afternoon. I am quite sure that was sent in to the Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN. You had better send it up to us this afternoon. You had better make us a duplicate and send us one copy direct, and let the other be sent in the formal way through the Secretary of the Treasury.

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. While I am here I might state, if I may be permitted, they have estimated for a large increase in the enlisted force of the Navy, and we are enlisting a great many men in localities where we have never enlisted them before—in the far West and South—and the bills are very much higher per man than they have been heretofore, and that will account for the large amount.

The CHAIRMAN. But I call attention to the fact that this new force is provided for.

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. That is their pay, that is their salaries. This item I am speaking of now is the expense of transportation.

Mr. SAYERS. All of these questions will come under your estimate which will reach us?

Captain CROWNINSHIELD. We submitted that, I am confident, to the Secretary, and it has not got up here. The Secretary may have concluded it was not necessary to send it.

BUREAU OF EQUIPMENT.

STATEMENT OF COMMANDER R. R. BRADFORD, CHIEF OF BUREAU OF EQUIPMENT.

The CHAIRMAN. You have for the current year \$1,458,000, and you had a deficiency of \$100,000?

Captain BRADFORD. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. What have you had in this Bureau from the \$50,000,000 appropriation?

Captain BRADFORD. I have had but \$1,290,883.47 allotted from the national-defense fund.

The CHAIRMAN. You have already prior to this submission submitted an estimate of \$300,000, so with this estimate —

Captain BRADFORD. Then I followed that with a million for a deficiency for the balance of this fiscal year.

The CHAIRMAN. Making all the estimates of deficiency for the balance of this fiscal year \$1,300,000?

Commander BRADFORD. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. That will take you through the year?

Commander BRADFORD. I think it will. I have a deficiency to-day of \$199,902; practically, \$200,000.

The CHAIRMAN. I will ask you whether this allotment of \$1,290,000 from the national-defense fund with this deficiency which you submit of \$1,300,000 is purely on account of the war?

Commander BRADFORD. Yes, sir; entirely. Of that allotment from the national-defense fund about \$572,000 was spent on purely equipment purposes, and the rest was spent for articles which I probably will not want to duplicate.

The CHAIRMAN. What do you mean by articles you do not want to duplicate?

Commander BRADFORD. For instance, buying places to store coal, buying coal lighters, water boats, and a number of other items of that sort which are finished now.

The CHAIRMAN. But none of these expenditures which have been made under your Bureau have been for materials that are wanted in the future, without reference to the present war?

Commander BRADFORD. None whatever; all is in reference to the present war—every cent.

The CHAIRMAN. So that you want this full estimate of \$1,300,000 to close up the present year?

Commander BRADFORD. Correct, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, we will drop the current year, and let us go to the next one.

Commander BRADFORD. I understand it.

The CHAIRMAN. The appropriation for the coming fiscal year in the naval bill is \$1,483,653.40?

Commander BRADFORD. That is on a peace basis. I made no estimate on a war basis for the next fiscal year.

The CHAIRMAN. You have not given any other estimate?

Commander BRADFORD. No; I have not.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you submitted any to the Secretary?

Commander BRADFORD. No, sir; I will do so if you wish. My expenses are about half a million dollars a month, as near as I can calculate.

The CHAIRMAN. Excluding a peace basis or including a peace basis?

Commander BRADFORD. Exclusive of a peace basis; but I have not had very long experience in that, and it may be more.

The CHAIRMAN. The deficiency bill in which these items are to go will probably be constructed on a basis of, first, making appropriations for the current year; second, an additional line of items for the first six months of the coming year.

Commander BRADFORD. I understand. I heard what you said to the others. Well, I think I shall be justified in asking at the rate of half a million dollars a month.

The CHAIRMAN. My opinion would be about these things when you come to make your estimates to take the whole appropriation for the coming fiscal year and calculate on the expenditure for the first six months, and then see how much additional you want to put you through until the 1st of January.

Commander BRADFORD. Yes, sir; I do not quite understand. You say, "Put me through the first six months;" that is, up to the 1st of January, beginning with the 1st of July?

The CHAIRMAN. Precisely. Now, in addition to what you have in the regular naval bill, suppose you spend all of that the first six months, how much more do you want to put you through for the six months?

Commander BRADFORD. I understand, of course, that is a small part of what will be required for a six months' war.

The CHAIRMAN. I guess you had better get that item up as quickly as you can, and will you be kind enough to have a copy of it made and send it directly to the committee and let the regular estimate come through the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Treasury. I will be glad if you will send it to us as soon as you conveniently can.

Commander BRADFORD. Yes, sir. Do you want any further items about these expenditures?

The CHAIRMAN. I do not think of anything else.

Commander BRADFORD. For purely equipment purposes, since the 12th of March I have spent \$984,000—that is, since the 12th of March up to the 1st of May—and, as I say, as near as I can estimate it will take about half a million dollars a month. There are some large expenditures out, exactly how much I do not know. There has been a good deal of coal purchased by cable at various places, and I have not got the bills, so it is very difficult to anticipate.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you build coal sheds and provide for barge transportation and that kind of thing?

Commander BRADFORD. I have had some such allotment from the national-defense fund covering colliers for the transportation of coal and such things.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you had an allotment other than \$1,290,000?

Commander BRADFORD. No, sir; that covers everything. I bought three steamers with that, colliers, and some tugs for towing barges, etc.

BUREAU OF ORDNANCE.

STATEMENT OF COMMANDER CHARLES O'NEIL, CHIEF OF BUREAU OF ORDNANCE.

The CHAIRMAN. You have charge of —

Commander O'NEIL. The Ordnance Bureau. We only ask for \$400,000.

The CHAIRMAN. You had for the current year \$700,000.

Commander O'NEIL. Five hundred thousand of that was for the reserve supply of ammunition specifically.

The CHAIRMAN. For the current year —

Commander O'NEIL. For the past year \$500,000 had to be spent for the reserve supply of ammunition and could not be spent for anything else, so that did not leave so much for general expenses.

The CHAIRMAN. Now you submit \$400,000 for the remainder of the year?

Commander O'NEIL. Four hundred thousand dollars for two months, and unless we can get that pretty quick we do not want it at all. Unless we can have it to spend right along it is not much good to us, unless it lapses over and becomes available after the end of the fiscal year.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you need it?

Commander O'NEIL. Yes, sir; we need it. The Secretary, I understand, will ask to have the naval bill made immediately available. That may give us some money to go on with, so unless this is going to come pretty soon it is not —

The CHAIRMAN. It will probably not come soon enough for your purposes, for I apprehend the general deficiency bill will carry all these items, but if the naval bill is made immediately available you have \$800,000?

Commander O'NEIL. Yes, sir.

Mr. SAYERS. You want this made continuing, then?

Commander O'NEIL. Yes, sir. If it is made continuing of course it will be all right, and I base that on the expenditures of the last two months. We have expended for the last two months out of the emergency appropriation \$184,000 for labor and \$300,000 for materials for navy-yards, not contracts, to carry on the work of navy-yards. In other words, it has been at the rate of \$484,000 for the past two months.

The CHAIRMAN. A month?

Commander O'NEIL. No; for the two months; and that is why I have made this \$400,000 for two months a little less; but as I say, if we are going to get our appropriation bill made available it does not make any difference whether I get that here immediately.

The CHAIRMAN. That is for those two months?

Commander O'NEIL. No, sir; we will have money to carry on our work.

The CHAIRMAN. I want to ask you will it require \$400,000 from some source for the remainder of this fiscal year to put you through?

Commander O'NEIL. Yes, sir; exactly.

The CHAIRMAN. Then that is all for current work?

Commander O'NEIL. Yes; for current work, labor, and material for navy-yards. It has nothing to do with contracts. It is simply for material to carry on the work of the navy-yards. We are working 24 hours a day instead of 8 hours, and that trebles the pay roll, and the consumption of material is very large, so as near as I can figure on it it is \$200,000 a month.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, I want to ask you if that disposes of all you have before us?

Commander O'NEIL. We have nothing else; no, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, dropping that and going on to another subject: You have for the coming fiscal year of 1899 \$800,000?

Commander O'NEIL. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Under this head of ordnance and ordnance stores?

Commander O'NEIL. But again, \$500,000 is appropriated for a specific purpose; \$500,000 is given for a certain definite purpose, and we can not use that for anything else.

The CHAIRMAN. What is that?

Commander O'NEIL. A reserve supply of ammunition, half a million dollars, so that we have only \$300,000 for everything else.

The CHAIRMAN. That is for purposes other than ammunition?

Commander O'NEIL. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. You are going to use \$500,000 for ammunition?

Commander O'NEIL. Under that act we can not use it for anything else.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, I am going to ask you when you go back to your office—

Commander O'NEIL. I have what you want here.

The CHAIRMAN. How much will be required for the first six months?

Commander O'NEIL. I estimate here if the war is carried on vigorously, that is, to be in full blast all the time, my Bureau will have to have a million dollars a month for the year; but I can not say they will expend that. But I think it should be available so that it can be used if we need it. It is impossible to say whether we will or not, but at the present time our expenses are \$50,000 a day right along. We are buying material now at the rate of \$250,000 a day. That is a million and a half a month. That will fall when these contracts have been filled which are outstanding, but there ought to be available for the use of the Navy Department for ordnance purposes not less than a million dollars a month while the war is continuing. I have written that, and it has gone to the Secretary. This is a copy of the letter I have written to the Secretary.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, BUREAU OF ORDNANCE,
Washington, D. C., May 3, 1898.

SIR: Referring to the Department's memorandum of this date:

Aside from the provisions contained in the naval appropriation bill for the years 1898 and 1899, for the Bureau of Ordnance, the Bureau estimates that its extraordinary expenses to maintain the Navy on a war footing will amount to \$1,000,000 per month, as follows:

Labor at navy-yards and stations	\$200,000
Materials at navy-yards and stations, and necessary expenses incident to improving or increasing the efficiency of ships and the Ordnance Department	300,000
Purchase of munitions of war	500,000
	1,000,000

For one year, \$12,000,000.

If the \$400,000 deficiency asked for under date of May 2, 1898, is allowed, it could be deducted from the above amount, making it \$11,600,000 for one year.

Respectfully,

CHARLES O'NEIL,
Chief of Bureau of Ordnance.

The SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

The CHAIRMAN. I have made this memorandum, which seems to cover your statement and that in the letter, that it will require a million dollars a month to the 1st of January, deducting \$400,000 deficiency, which leaves \$5,600,000 to be appropriated for the period up to the 1st of January next.

Commander O'NEIL. That is right, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. And you will be amply cared for up to the 1st of January with that appropriation?

Commander O'NEIL. Amply. Now, if I may submit a word. My request to the Bureau of Yards and Docks is included in their estimates, \$80,000 for a new building at the Washington Navy-Yard. This is our great gun factory here, and we are simply overflowing with work and ought to expand that place. We have many facilities there now, and it is easy to expand it, and it ought to be done, and we need it very badly, indeed. Our shops are overcrowded, and we simply can not carry on the work as efficiently as we would like to do and ought to do.

The CHAIRMAN. How long would it take to complete that shop?

Commander O'NEIL. Six months.

The CHAIRMAN. It would take six months to complete it?

Commander O'NEIL. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Did you present that matter to the Committee on Naval Affairs?

Commander O'NEIL. I did before the naval bill was passed. I wrote to them through the Secretary and asked that the money which was appropriated for a Philadelphia building might be transferred to Washington, as being more urgently required. They provided for a building in Philadelphia, but for some reason they did not act upon it. I suppose it was too late to act upon it, and I suppose the Philadelphia people would have made an awful row if they should take the building away from them after they had given them one. I should imagine they would meet with a great deal of objection.

The CHAIRMAN. I want to ask somebody here—can you approximate an estimate of the cost of the necessary armor and armament for the new ships in the act of 1899?

Commander O'NEIL. I can of course, but I can not give it off-hand. I can give it to you when I go to my office because there will be the same number of ships as in the present bill. That is, you have appropriated in this bill for three battle ships and it will take the same amount for the next three.

The CHAIRMAN. You have got a whole lot of cruisers, but what I want to know about is for everything authorized in the naval bill for the coming year.

Commander O'NEIL. I can do that, but I can not do it here.

The CHAIRMAN. Will you be kind enough to write us a letter?

Commander O'NEIL. What do you wish to be included in there?

The CHAIRMAN. The amount that is not appropriated here.

Commander O'NEIL. You want the total sum of the unappropriated amount yet to be expended?

The CHAIRMAN. The approximate cost of the armor and armament necessary for the new ships for 1899.

Commander O'NEIL. Not already appropriated for?

The CHAIRMAN. I think nothing is appropriated for armor and armament.

Commander O'NEIL. The armor is only intended to cover and it is based upon the armor for the three battle ships which have been waiting some time. Now for the three new battle ships and four coast-defense ships—

The CHAIRMAN. What I want to get from some of you gentlemen is an estimate of the contract work for everything not appropriated for in the bill which authorizes it.

Commander O'NEIL. Which finishes those ships?

The CHAIRMAN. And everything else. In other words, the bill appropriates \$56,000,000 in round numbers, and then it authorizes obligations to be incurred and contracts to be made in the future. Now, I wish to know how much that authorization is going to cost.

Commander O'NEIL. I can fix it up for my bureau. I can give a close approximate estimate of what it would take to complete all the ships contemplated in there—that is, carry all to a completion, the armor, armament, outfit, etc.

The CHAIRMAN. I wish you would take a memorandum and not only answer for your bureau but notify the other bureaus or the Secretary, so we can get that information.

Commander O'NEIL. You want to know how much more money has got to be appropriated to clear up all those ships that are partially appropriated for now?

The CHAIRMAN. Yes, I would like to know. I know this bill appropriates \$56,000,000, and now I want to know how much it authorizes.

Mr. SAYERS. Another thing is, how much it will require to put those ships in commission.

Commander O'NEIL. To make them ready for service? It authorizes the completion and commission of the vessels with a complete outfit.

Mr. SAYERS. The reason I used the word "commission" is that includes all the expenses up to the time she is in commission, because there are other expenses.

Commander O'NEIL. I will send a memorandum.

BUREAU OF SUPPLIES AND ACCOUNTS.

STATEMENT OF PAYMASTER-GENERAL EDWIN STEWART PAYMASTER-GENERAL UNITED STATES NAVY, BUREAU OF SUPPLIES AND ACCOUNTS.

The CHAIRMAN. For your first item of provisions and commuted rations, labor in general storehouses, etc., your appropriation was \$1,405,000 for the current year, and your estimate for the remainder of the fiscal year is \$1,000,000?

Paymaster-General STEWART. Yes, sir. We have a deficiency now of about \$500,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Did you have anything from the national defense fund?

Paymaster-General STEWART. Nothing for provisions.

The CHAIRMAN. You had a deficiency of \$500,000, made when? In the last two months?

Paymaster-General STEWART. Yes. We have been buying provisions very largely, and it is a simple question of figures; 30 cents a day is the allowance, and they have increased the number of men in the Navy very largely and put so many ships in commission we have had to buy very large quantities of provisions, and we estimate it will cost us another \$500,000 before we get through this year.

The CHAIRMAN. Making it \$1,000,000 altogether?

Paymaster-General STEWART. That is the deficiency for this year up to the 1st of July.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that on the basis of the service being full, as authorized by law?

Paymaster-General STEWART. You see we had about 11,500 men ordinarily, or have had. Now they have commenced recruiting and have got it up to 15,000, and they are going to run it up to 35,000.

The CHAIRMAN. That will not be done before the 1st of July, will it?

Paymaster-General STEWART. But, as I say, we have got a deficiency now of \$500,000 and we can not fight without food.

The CHAIRMAN. Suppose all these enlistments were made now authorized by law, would this \$1,000,000 be sufficient to last you until the 1st of July?

Paymaster-General STEWART. It will last us until the 1st of July.

Mr. FAWCETT (chief clerk of Bureau of Supplies and Accounts). Not if all are enlisted who are authorized. It will not be half enough.

Paymaster-General STEWART. But they will not be made up to that time.

The CHAIRMAN. This is the estimate of what you are going absolutely to pay out from a practical standpoint, taking into consideration the number of men in the Navy now and the number that probably will be enlisted for the coming two months, and will carry you up to the 1st of July?

Paymaster-General STEWART. Yes, sir.

Mr. SAYERS. What is the full number of enlistments authorized by law?

Paymaster-General STEWART. They have provided for about 35,000 men. Is not that the number?

Mr. FAWCETT. 35,550, I think it is—to be exact. That is, the naval bill, as passed, carries pay for that number of men.

The CHAIRMAN. One million dollars takes care of you until the 30th of June; and you have got, for the coming fiscal year, \$1,405,000?

Paymaster-General STEWART. Yes, sir; and we are asking for \$3,000,000.

The CHAIRMAN. For the whole year?

Paymaster-General STEWART. That \$1,405,000 is based on about 11,000 men; whereas, if we have these 35,000 men, why, we will have to add \$3,000,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Three million dollars in addition?

Paymaster-General STEWART. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. And if you have for six months \$1,500,000 will be enough?

Paymaster-General STEWART. Yes, sir.

Mr. SAYERS. That is for provisions and commuted rations?

Paymaster-General STEWART. Yes, just the heading as it is put there.

Mr. SAYERS. That is not for this fiscal year?

The CHAIRMAN. No, for the next. These are purely war expenditures. For purchase of contingent stores, transportation, etc., you had \$50,000—

Paymaster-General STEWART. Our appropriation was \$50,000, and we have had \$25,000 from the national defense fund, and we ask now \$50,000 to carry us through the year. We have been making unusual shipments, owing to the war.

Mr. SAYERS. This is to July 1?

Paymaster-General STEWART. Yes, sir; this is up to July 1 what we want this \$50,000.

The CHAIRMAN. And it will cover that?

Paymaster-General STEWART. Oh, yes. For the next year, at the same ratio we base the estimates for provisions on, we want \$200,000, or \$100,000 for six months.

Mr. SAYERS. That is for the entire next fiscal year?

Paymaster-General STEWART. Yes, sir; \$200,000, but the freight comes out of that also. Then you have something that has just come in you might want to ask about—that is in relation to this clothing fund. You have that letter there.

The CHAIRMAN. Your bureau is the commissary bureau?

Paymaster-General STEWART. Yes, sir; we are commissary, quartermaster-general and paymaster-general all in one; and we have all the accounts of the Navy besides.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,

Washington, May 7, 1898.

SIR: The Department has this day forwarded to the honorable the Secretary of the Treasury, for transmission to Congress, to be included in an urgent deficiency bill, together with other deficiency estimates submitted May 2 and 3, respectively, an estimate of an appropriation amounting to \$1,000,000, under the subhead "Clothing and small stores fund," for purchase of clothing and small stores, for issuance to the naval service, the present fund being inadequate to meet the requirements of the service at this time. I inclose a copy of a letter from the Paymaster-General of the Navy, explaining the necessity for this estimate.

Very respectfully,

JOHN D. LONG,
Secretary.

Hon. JOS. G. CANNON,
*Chairman Committee on Appropriations,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

NAVY DEPARTMENT, BUREAU OF SUPPLIES AND ACCOUNTS.

Washington, May 7, 1898.

SIR: The Bureau submits herewith an estimate for \$1,000,000 increase in the clothing and small stores fund, being in addition to the deficiency estimates previously submitted and a part of the \$5,500,000 referred to in the Bureau's letter of the 4th instant. The fund is entirely inadequate to meet the demand for clothing and small stores under present conditions, the amount estimated for being imperatively needed to meet bills of contractors for large purchases being made.

It is requested that the estimate be sent to the committee at once by messenger, in order that it may be explained when the representative of the Bureau appears before the Committee on Appropriations to-day.

Respectfully,

EDWIN STEWART,
Paymaster-General, U. S. N.

The SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

The CHAIRMAN. That estimate we have not yet received.

Paymaster-General STEWART. No; you received it here with this letter. Now, this clothing and small stores is a fund. The fund now amounts to about a million dollars. It is the capital with which we work. We have to buy large quantities of material and we manufacture the cloth. Then when the cloth is issued that fund is reimbursed, so that the clothing fund is self-sustaining, only we have not capital enough to work with now with this large increase which has suddenly been made to the Navy, and when the war is over and the necessity of so large a fund ceases that money will be turned into the Treasury again. But we want a larger capital to work with now. For instance, if I buy 100,000 yards of flannel it costs \$100,000 right out, and other material is the same way. We have a factory in Brooklyn where we manufacture these materials. We carry in stock and on board of ships in the Navy a stock of clothing, and we have to have the capital to do it with. It does not take anything from the Government, because the men pay for all this.

The CHAIRMAN. I think I understand it. It has no relation to the fiscal years at all?

Paymaster-General STEWART. No, sir; not at all. We want the fund raised from what it is now by a million dollars. Is that all you want?

The CHAIRMAN. I think that is all.

BUREAU OF CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR.

STATEMENT OF D. A. GREEN, ACTING CHIEF CLERK, BUREAU OF CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR, NAVY DEPARTMENT.

The CHAIRMAN. You may begin by stating what you have had from the national-defense fund.

Mr. GREEN. \$115,315.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you exhausted all the money you had for preservation and completion of vessels?

Mr. GREEN. We had on the 1st of May a half million dollars.

Mr. SAYERS. Were there any obligations against that?

Mr. GREEN. There were bills that had not yet come in. Vessels are being completed by outside parties.

Mr. SAYERS. So you do not know whether that has been practically used up or not?

Mr. GREEN. No; we estimated the bills of outside parties at \$350,000.

Mr. SAYERS. Leaving \$150,000?

Mr. GREEN. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Your estimate is \$1,500,000 for the remaining two months?

Mr. GREEN. Yes, sir; May and June.

The CHAIRMAN. How do you get at that?

Mr. GREEN. We are spending \$1,200,000 per month.

The CHAIRMAN. Then \$1,500,000 will not be enough for two months?

Mr. GREEN. The chief told me to say to you that he estimated that it would be enough, for the reason that some of the vessels are under repair by outside firms, and when they are finished it will stop that expense.

The CHAIRMAN. You have been doing a great deal of repairing, and then, later on, it will be less?

Mr. GREEN. He thought it would.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there something from these expenditures that will materialize in future?

Mr. GREEN. This is entirely for war, and the running expenses.

The CHAIRMAN. The current expenses?

Mr. GREEN. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. There is nothing in the way of permanent betterment?

Mr. GREEN. No, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Your appropriation for next year is \$2,500,000?

Mr. GREEN. Yes, sir. I will read a letter from the Secretary. The letter is as follows:

NAVY DEPARTMENT, BUREAU OF CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR,
Washington, D. C., May 3, 1898.

SIR: Referring to the Department's memorandum of date, requesting an estimate of what will be necessary for expenditure under this Bureau for the next fiscal year under appropriation "Construction and repair," in addition to the provisions in the naval appropriation bill, the Bureau desires to state that, taking the month of April as a basis, and taking into consideration also the risks of war, it estimates that the sum of \$1,200,000 per month will be required:

Total for the next fiscal year	\$14, 400, 000
Amount appropriated in naval bill	2, 500, 000

Amount required in addition to amount in naval bill	11, 900, 000
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Very respectfully,

PHILIP HICHBORN,
Chief Constructor, U. S. N., Chief of Bureau.

The SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

The CHAIRMAN. For six months, it would be half of that amount, without embarrassment?

Mr. GREEN. Yes, sir.

Mr. SAYERS. You want \$1,500,000 per month for the next fiscal year?

Mr. GREEN. Yes, sir; on the basis of the present expenditures.

The CHAIRMAN. On the basis of the month of April have you not got that a little high?

Mr. GREEN. No. The chief wishes me to say that he thought the estimate was under rather than over.

The CHAIRMAN. However, if this appropriation is made—\$1,500,000—for the remainder of this fiscal year, and if, in addition, we appropriate for six months \$5,450,000, that will run you to the 1st of January?

Mr. GREEN. Yes, but it will leave us without a dollar.

The CHAIRMAN. Then you want \$7,200,000 if we are not to leave that in?

Mr. GREEN. Yes, sir; deducting half of the other we would need so much, and the \$1,500,000 will run us for the next six months. If you should leave us without a dollar, we would want more. One thing particularly the chief asked me to say was that this money ought to be continuous, because if we spend that out of the next appropriation we will be so much short.

Mr. SAYERS. You want, then, for the six months beginning the 1st of January \$5,450,000 on this bill?

Mr. GREEN. Yes, sir; for six months.

BUREAU OF YARDS AND DOCKS.

STATEMENTS OF MR. M. T. ENDICOTT, CIVIL ENGINEER, AND MR. O. G. DODGE, ELECTRICIAN, OF THE BUREAU OF YARDS AND DOCKS.

PORTSMOUTH NAVY-YARD.

The CHAIRMAN. The first item is for the navy-yard at Portsmouth, which is located in the State of New Hampshire. For steel balance, floating dry dock, and repairs to accessories, \$425,000. This is a new discovery, is it not?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Not for me.

The CHAIRMAN. It is, so far as our estimates are concerned.

Mr. ENDICOTT. It has not been presented to Congress. This is for the rebuilding of an old wooden dock, which was formerly there and which would lift 5,000 tons, which has deteriorated, and we desire to put it in good condition and to equip it, because it has now degenerated so it will lift only about 1,500 tons. This is to replace the old dock by a modern steel floating dock with a lifting capacity of 5,000 tons. It is very valuable property and cost originally \$1,000,000. There is a railway running to it. If these repairs are made, we can repair two ships at once. I think it is of far more importance that this should be put in good condition than that the new one in the naval bill should be built, which will cost twice as much.

The CHAIRMAN. The cost of this floating steel dock would be \$425,000?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes, including the accessories. For repairs, we would need probable \$25,000.

Mr. SAYERS. Is this dock not rather dangerous for large vessels which might try to come to that place? Would a captain of one of our largest vessels undertake to bring a vessel in there without specific orders from the Department?

Mr. ENDICOTT. He might not want to take a battle ship in there. This is only for vessels of 5,000 tons, such as cruisers. Mr. Chandler has already introduced a resolution calling for surveys with a view of making improvements of the channel.

The CHAIRMAN. How much will that cost?

Mr. ENDICOTT. I do not think they have yet reported. I am familiar with that point, because I live there. It is well named.

Mr. SAYERS. How far is that from Boston?

Mr. ENDICOTT. About 60 miles.

The CHAIRMAN. Then they are going to have a dock at Boston.

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes; but it is a large one. That is why I said that the improvement of this would be better than the new one at Portsmouth.

The CHAIRMAN. How long would it take to build this steel balance dock?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Nine months.

The CHAIRMAN. From the time the appropriation becomes available?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. How large a ship would it take in?

Mr. ENDICOTT. One of 300 feet.

The CHAIRMAN. Would it take a cruiser?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes; it would take the cruisers of 5,000 tons. It would take nearly everything except the *Minneapolis*, the *Columbia*, and the battle ships. It would take 75 or 80 per cent of the ships of the navy.

The CHAIRMAN. But it would not take battle ships or very large cruisers?

Mr. ENDICOTT. No, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. If you are to consider the real wants of the service, is it not a fact that this steel balance dock is what is needed, if anything, at Portsmouth, and not the dock provided for in the naval bill?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes, sir; because this can be provided in nine months, and it will take three years to build the other one.

Mr. SAYERS. Do you regard this as strictly a war measure?

Mr. ENDICOTT. If the war is to end in six or even in nine months, it is not a war measure, because it would take nine months in order to have it ready for work.

The CHAIRMAN. Can these ships not be docked at existing docks at Boston?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes; nearly all these docks would be sufficient.

The CHAIRMAN. In what other docks could they be docked?

Mr. ENDICOTT. There are some in Boston and some in New York.

The CHAIRMAN. There are several at Boston?

Mr. ENDICOTT. There are three private docks, and two of them are of very good size.

The CHAIRMAN. How many are there in New York?

Mr. ENDICOTT. There are a good many in New York.

The CHAIRMAN. I suppose there are fifteen or twenty that would take in the small vessels that this steel dock would?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Not so many. Perhaps there are a dozen that would take in the same class of vessels.

The CHAIRMAN. How many are there in Philadelphia that would take in this same class of vessels?

Mr. ENDICOTT. There are two—one private and one public. There are some slips there.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there not other places on the coast?

Mr. ENDICOTT. No, sir. There is a small one at Wilmington.

Mr. SAYERS. What is the use of spending this money here if you are going to build that authorized in the naval bill?

Mr. ENDICOTT. If the yard is to be used for naval purposes, we ought to have two docks. It is more economical to have one of small size for smaller vessels than to erect a dock 700 feet long to take in a torpedo boat or a tugboat.

BOSTON NAVY-YARD.

The CHAIRMAN. For navy-yard, Boston, there are several items. Were these matters presented to the Committee on Naval Affairs?

Mr. ENDICOTT. No, sir. This estimate was made nine or ten months ago. I made a visit to that station last winter, and after consultation with the engineer and with Chief Engineer Melville we found some interior modifications were required, making it cost \$20,000, and that would leave a balance of \$35,000. The chief engineer wants some expensive tools to be put in there. I attend to the foundations. It is only filled ground.

The CHAIRMAN. How long would it take to expend this entire appropriation?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Some items would probably take nearly six months. It could all be done within six months. Some of them could be finished in a shorter time. The coal shed could be completed in a month. It is very important.

The CHAIRMAN. This is in our bill, but these matters belong to the Committee on Naval Affairs. We do not want to put anything on this bill that is not necessary for the war, and we want to put on it everything that is necessary. With that statement you can go on and modify your estimates, if possible.

Mr. ENDICOTT. The modification will assume how soon the war is going to close.

The CHAIRMAN. A good many naval officers have told me that, in their judgment, it will be closed in six months or less. We want you to take the whole service of the country—the private shipyards and the existing coal sheds, etc.

Mr. ENDICOTT. I would say that the provision for the coal shed ought to stand. The machinery for the shears could go out if the war is going to close in a few months. The extension of the wharf I would not throw out, but would reduce it. The wharves are in a bad condition. I should leave in, say, \$35,000, or half of it. The wharves need quite extensive repairs. The electrical plant ought not to be cut down one dollar, for the reason that the yards are very illy lighted and they are working by lamps and candles. We want light and fuel to carry on this work. As to dredging, I would say it might be reduced in the same proportion as the wharves. Put that down to \$35,000.

The CHAIRMAN. What do you say is necessary from a war standpoint? The river and harbor bill dredges the harbors.

Mr. ENDICOTT. There has not been any dredging done at the navy-yard in the harbor at Boston for years. That alteration in building No. 42, \$35,000, is for important modifications of the building which Chief Engineer Melville and I agree should be done. He has got tools there and he is anxious to set them up. That ought to be done.

The CHAIRMAN. If I had my way I would discontinue every navy-yard in the public service and let it out by contract.

Mr. ENDICOTT. The Government is sending ships to Boston now for repairs.

The CHAIRMAN. Is it necessary to send them there?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes; New York is congested with work now. They are putting everything into New York that it can stand.

The CHAIRMAN. How long would it take to do this?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Everything mentioned there can be completed in three months.

Mr. SAYERS. Would you want \$35,000?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes, sir; and if Commodore Melville were here I think he would urge it strongly. It was included at his request.

NEW LONDON NAVAL STATION.

The CHAIRMAN. Naval station, New London, Conn. That was not submitted to the Naval Committee?

Mr. ENDICOTT. No, sir; this has arisen entirely since the preparations for war began, and that is asked especially at the request of Commodore Bradford. He coals the ships. The Bureau of Yards and Docks has to supply him with coal and with storage for it on shore. He regards it as important that there should be a depot to supply coal to ships near the eastern end of Long Island Sound, near New York. The yard is not useful for anything except strategy. That is the best use it could be put to. It is important to have a good supply of coal at the eastern end of Long Island Sound.

The CHAIRMAN. You have another here at Newport. How far are they apart?

Mr. ENDICOTT. About 60 miles. That is outside of the race.

The CHAIRMAN. You have got one at Boston?

Mr. ENDICOTT. It is a small one.

The CHAIRMAN. Vessels coal there?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes. Of the two, I should think the one at New London is the more important.

The CHAIRMAN. I am not going to put in this bill anything unless you say it is necessary. How long will it take to put them in?

Mr. ENDICOTT. It will take only a short time—about ninety days.

The CHAIRMAN. From a war standpoint, must either or both of them go in?

Mr. ENDICOTT. I should put one of them in.

The CHAIRMAN. And of the two you say the New London one is the more important?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. And the other can safely go out, considering the general benefit of the service?

Mr. ENDICOTT. I am trying to speak from the standpoint of another bureau chief. I know he is desirous for both, but particularly anxious for the one at New London. If you are providing for the exigencies of the next six months I would say Newport might go out.

NEW YORK NAVY-YARD.

The CHAIRMAN. Navy-yard, New York. That is the dry dock about which we had trouble?

Mr. ENDICOTT. No, sir; that is No. 3.

The CHAIRMAN. How is No. 3 getting along?

Mr. ENDICOTT. From the last reports we have received the prospects are that it will be ready for service in about forty-five days.

The CHAIRMAN. From what time?

Mr. ENDICOTT. From the present time; it is promised earlier.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you examined it sufficiently to enable you to say when it is going to be ready?

Mr. ENDICOTT. No, sir; I have nothing to do with that. Construction is going on under the Secretary of the Navy.

The CHAIRMAN. This work was badly done.

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Repair of entrance, timber dry dock No. 2, \$300,000. That contemplates making that dock equal to No. 3?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Not in size. It is now built of timber entirely. It is contemplated to put in a concrete entrance if the present entrance must be renewed. If you have read my remarks on that subject—

The CHAIRMAN. This Dry Dock No. 2, you did not submit to the Committee on Naval Affairs?

Mr. ENDICOTT. No, sir; I made no submissions to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

The CHAIRMAN. It is contemplated that this dock would be made sufficiently large to take in battle ships?

Mr. ENDICOTT. No, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. There are a lot of private docks which will take all ships that this will take?

Mr. ENDICOTT. No, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there none at all?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes, there is one in New York in the Erie Basin. The present entrance has just been reported upon as being in danger. A board of engineers was

appointed to examine it, and they have reported it to be very inferior, and estimate that it would require renewal at a cost of \$300,000, but we are not satisfied that that estimate is correct. This dock ought to be repaired at once, as the remaining stone dock is a small one. If this dock does not require a new entrance, the cost of repairs may not be more than \$50,000, but if it requires a new entrance it should be made of concrete, and it will cost \$300,000.

The CHAIRMAN. When did you get this information the first time?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Only about five days ago. I reported it to the Secretary, and a board of engineers was appointed to examine it.

The CHAIRMAN. From your board, you have not yet gotten a report, or will you get a report?

Mr. ENDICOTT. It will be several days. We will not be able to get a report before Thursday.

The CHAIRMAN. Will you make a memorandum on that subject and let us hear from you?

Mr. ENDICOTT. I will. I thought this bill was going through immediately, and I thought that item ought to appear. If this goes in, I will include that \$300,000, or so much as may be necessary.

The CHAIRMAN. Timber dry docks ought not to cost so much.

Mr. ENDICOTT. No, sir; but if this is renewed, it ought to be renewed in concrete, which is better, more durable, and safer. I do not think these large timber docks are safe, because the hydrostatic pressure is so great that they may collapse.

The CHAIRMAN. The next item is for locomotive, \$3,500.

Mr. ENDICOTT. We need that to-day.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you not got another appropriation from which you can supply it?

Mr. ENDICOTT. We might pay it from the appropriation for general maintenance, which includes machinery.

The CHAIRMAN. For reconstruction and expense of railroad, \$25,000.

Mr. ENDICOTT. The Cobb dock has been connected with the other property by means of a causeway, and we want to extend the railway system and repair some part which is in bad condition.

The CHAIRMAN. Can not all these items be done from this general appropriation?

Mr. ENDICOTT. No, sir; because you would have to increase that item. The item for repairs and preservation is \$400,000, including repairs of all kinds, buildings, quarters, streets, sewers, water, and electric-light system.

The CHAIRMAN. If you did not get it here you would want it elsewhere?

Mr. ENDICOTT. We want it somewhere. The transportation facilities of the yard are overtaxed. Preparations for war have developed a good many weaknesses.

The CHAIRMAN. The next item is for 100-ton crane and foundations.

Mr. ENDICOTT. That is important.

The CHAIRMAN. How long will it take to do that?

Mr. ENDICOTT. The parties would have to make preliminary estimates, but it could be done in three or four months. They would guarantee to do it in ninety days, but they may require over a hundred days. We want something to lift a gun off a ship, and there is nothing now for that purpose. A big gun weighs 63 tons.

The CHAIRMAN. Extension of electric-light system, \$50,000.

Mr. ENDICOTT. Professor Dodge is familiar with that, and I think he would say that that is important.

The CHAIRMAN. You had on the bill how much?

Mr. DODGE. Fifteen thousand dollars.

Mr. ENDICOTT. Mr. Dodge knows that these figures are entirely inadequate. I have only been chief of the Bureau a month, and he has been the electrician there for years.

Mr. DODGE. The idea was to build plants year by year. None of them will do for night-working purposes, and when this war emergency came on they all wanted light. The original estimate was \$75,000. We have \$15,000 in the naval bill, leaving \$50,000 necessary to do this. These light plants will answer well enough in times of peace, but when the question of lighting all night came up we found that the plants were not large enough.

Mr. ENDICOTT. It was not originally contemplated to light at night, and the moment that war preparations began we found that we had not light enough.

The CHAIRMAN. Can not you hitch on temporarily to local plants?

Mr. ENDICOTT. No, sir; we tried that. They have not got enough voltage.

The CHAIRMAN. You will have no need for these great plants as soon as the war emergency is past.

Mr. ENDICOTT. In six months or a year, if the emergency passes, these lamps can be stored away. The cost of maintenance is very slight.

Mr. DODGE. The cost of maintenance will not be greater than it is now.

The CHAIRMAN. How long will it take to do this work?

Mr. DODGE. Probably six weeks.

Mr. ENDICOTT. All these lighting matters I consider important.

The CHAIRMAN. You have got in \$30,000 for a new building.

Mr. DODGE. There is no place available for the lighting plant.

Mr. ENDICOTT. It was installed in a building for yards and docks.

The CHAIRMAN. You call this a war item?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes, sir; give us that and we can put it in in good condition. It is the most important point in the country.

The CHAIRMAN. You ask a reappropriation for modification of building No. 14 for yards and docks. How much will the balance be?

Mr. ENDICOTT. It will probably be \$20,000 when the obligations are all met. We do not expect to use that. If you give us a building for an electric-light plant, we will not need all that.

The CHAIRMAN. If we do not give you a building for an electric-light plant, you want this; and if we do, you do not want it.

Mr. ENDICOTT. We want a little of it—probably \$5,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Can not you get it from the item for repairs?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes; I will agree to that.

LEAGUE ISLAND NAVY-YARD.

The CHAIRMAN. Navy-yard, League Island; electric-light plant, \$10,000.

Mr. ENDICOTT. The item of \$5,500 in the naval act refers to the steam generator for heating purposes and the electric-light plant.

The CHAIRMAN. You are not using that navy-yard?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes, we floated the *Columbia* and the *Minneapolis*, and they were gotten ready for sea at that place.

Mr. DODGE. They are asking for more lights. They want money to extend their lighting to the shops.

Mr. ENDICOTT. That yard has done a great deal of work.

The CHAIRMAN. You call this a war matter?

Mr. ENDICOTT. League Island I would call a war measure.

WASHINGTON NAVY-YARD.

The CHAIRMAN. Navy-yard, Washington; for electric light, increase of plant, \$20,000. The machine shop, \$80,000, is for permanent betterment and is not a war measure?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. How about the electric light?

Mr. DODGE. The electric light is a war measure. They are working twenty-four hours a day, and they need the light.

NORFOLK NAVY-YARD.

The CHAIRMAN. Navy-yard, Norfolk; for repairs of timber dry dock, \$15,000. That is already pending before us on a previous estimate.

Mr. ENDICOTT. I did not know that that had been put in.

The CHAIRMAN. Is not that also in the naval bill?

Mr. ENDICOTT. No, sir; an estimate was submitted for it. The electric light is important. It is the second yard in the country.

The CHAIRMAN. The \$30,000 is a war matter? Then you have \$40,000 for the workshop. Is it a war necessity?

Mr. ENDICOTT. If the war ends in six months, it is not.

The CHAIRMAN. Let that go out along with the Washington shop.

PORT ROYAL NAVAL STATION.

Navy-yard, Port Royal, has \$370,000 in the naval act for 1899. With this appropriation can you utilize that naval station by the 1st of January?

Mr. ENDICOTT. We expect to do so by the 1st of January. We utilize it now for everything except battle ships.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you got water; and will you not have to condemn land down there?

Mr. ENDICOTT. The land has been condemned. There is an appropriation to pay the award of the condemnation proceedings. The House put in a proviso that the appropriation should be continued for a claim to the water front, and the Senate struck it out. In the bill as it became a law the proviso was absent. The appropriation was made absolutely without regard to that. They have nearly 10,000 tons of coal there now, and it is only half covered.

The CHAIRMAN. Do ships coal there now?

Mr. ENDICOTT. A few coal there.

The CHAIRMAN. What is the next nearest coaling station to Port Royal?

Mr. ENDICOTT. They can get coal at Norfolk and Key West. They are five days apart.

The CHAIRMAN. How many tons have you there now?

Mr. ENDICOTT. About 10,000 tons.

The CHAIRMAN. And you have sheds for—

Mr. ENDICOTT. About 2,500 tons. The rest is exposed to the weather.

The CHAIRMAN. And you call this a war appropriation?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes, sir; I should. If we once get that channel, I should regard it as important.

The CHAIRMAN. How long will it take to get that channel?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Until about the 1st of July. We can get up at high tide now, but the water is not deep enough to lighter at low tide. We want a basin large enough for a battle ship to lie at low tide.

The CHAIRMAN. What do you want with the wharf?

Mr. ENDICOTT. We want one because the present wharf is inadequate for coaling facilities, the channel being 225 feet long.

The CHAIRMAN. Was not a bill passed last month for \$75,000?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. You call this a war matter?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes; they relate to coaling facilities.

PENSACOLA NAVY-YARD.

The CHAIRMAN. Navy-yard, Pensacola, Fla.

Mr. ENDICOTT. They have no electric light there.

The CHAIRMAN. I thought you had abandoned that yard.

Mr. ENDICOTT. Nothing has been done there for many years, but at the present time the Government is using it.

The CHAIRMAN. For what?

Mr. ENDICOTT. For fitting-out facilities. We have sent vessels there to be fitted out, and it is a nearer rendezvous for the fleet than any other navy-yard.

The CHAIRMAN. You say we have no coaling facilities there. Which is the more important?

Mr. ENDICOTT. As a coaling station, Key West is more important, and as a rendezvous. There are no facilities for repairing there. Pensacola has shops. We have arranged there for housing 1,300 enlisted men for the Navy, and we have no lights.

The CHAIRMAN. Repairs to coal-storage sheds, etc., \$25,000. How long will that take you?

Mr. ENDICOTT. The electric light can be put in in three or four weeks. Repairs of buildings and wharves can be done in six weeks. Dredging will require probably three months. Everything can be done there in three months.

The CHAIRMAN. You want it?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes; Pensacola will be important.

KEY WEST NAVAL STATION.

The CHAIRMAN. Naval station, Key West. Dredging, filling, etc.

Mr. ENDICOTT. That all concerns dredging. There is not a sufficient depth of water there for the larger vessels to come up to the wharf.

The CHAIRMAN. How far is that from Pensacola?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Four hundred miles.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that a war necessity?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. It was never presented before, was it? Or do you recollect?

Mr. ENDICOTT. I do not recall. One reason why this item is large is because land there is scarce, and the material dredged out we want to use to make more land.

The CHAIRMAN. But we do not want to put it on this bill?

Mr. ENDICOTT. If you do not want to do that, you can make that \$25,000.

GULF COAST—FLOATING DOCKS.

The CHAIRMAN. Two floating dry docks for use on the Gulf coast, \$250,000.

Mr. ENDICOTT. I think that they are most important, and we do not have to build them. I can go to New York to-day and buy them.

The CHAIRMAN. What kind of ships will they take in?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Vessels up to 3,500 tons. They can be bought in New York Harbor to-day that will take in a vessel of 4,000 tons. That will not take in a battle ship or a large cruiser, but it will take in tugs and cruisers of the Atlantic coast.

The CHAIRMAN. Are these wooden docks?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes, sir. It is only \$250,000 for the two.

The CHAIRMAN. How soon could you get them?

Mr. ENDICOTT. In thirty days.

The CHAIRMAN. There is no dock on the Gulf?

Mr. ENDICOTT. There are some private docks, but nothing of a capacity of over 1,500 tons.

The CHAIRMAN. What is the capacity of these?

Mr. ENDICOTT. One is 3,500 and the other 2,500 tons.

The CHAIRMAN. You call that a war measure?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes, sir.

MARE ISLAND NAVY-YARD.

The CHAIRMAN. Is this item of electric lighting for officers' quarters or for workshops?

Mr. ENDICOTT. It is for general quarters. We want to add to it.

The CHAIRMAN. You do not want to do work there?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Oh, yes; we are working there twenty-four hours per day. We are working twenty-four hours in Pensacola. Every yard is working overtime.

The CHAIRMAN. We do not want to do this unless you say it is necessary. As a war measure, I would put in anything.

Mr. ENDICOTT. Light is necessary. We could put it in some other way without putting it in this bill.

The CHAIRMAN. You could put it in from repairs?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. I am asking you to say whether this amount can be paid from repairs and preservation of navy-yards.

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes, sir; we can pay it from that if you will not cut down the item for repairs.

MAINTENANCE, YARDS AND DOCKS.

The CHAIRMAN. For general maintenance of yards and docks you have for the coming fiscal year \$300,000, and you want \$100,000 additional?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Yes, sir. That is because, under present conditions, our expenditures under that head will be considerably larger than now. I think \$100,000 is about right. You will see I have submitted nothing at all for deficiency for the present year, because I was using the defense fund.

The CHAIRMAN. This \$100,000 is for 1899. Suppose we would provide you money on the theory that it is to run to the 1st of January next?

Mr. ENDICOTT. Then we ought to have about eight-fourteenths of the \$100,000, which would be a little more than half—say \$60,000, on the basis of running six months, or up to January, 1899.

REPAIRS AND PRESERVATION, NAVY-YARDS.

The CHAIRMAN. For repairs and preservation of stations. I think the other was general maintenance of yards and docks.

Mr. ENDICOTT. This is a different class of expenditures. General maintenance was put on the contingent. It is for purchase and maintenance, for fire engines, and machinery of all kinds, as well as repairs and attendance on engines, purchase and maintenance of docks, cars, etc., for stationery, furniture, gas, coal, and fuel. The estimates for fuel at the Mare Island Navy-Yard alone was \$25,000 for the next year, and they will use more than \$100,000 as the war continues.

The CHAIRMAN. Repairs and preservation come next.

Mr. ENDICOTT. That includes repairs of all buildings, repairs to wharf, dry docks, pavements, waterworks, as well as the sewage system and officers' quarters.

The CHAIRMAN. Four hundred thousand dollars would run you, say, to the 1st of January?

Mr. ENDICOTT. No, sir. That would be used up in time of peace. It would be sufficient to run to the 1st of January. I misunderstood you on that. In that event, we would have to come in at the end of the year.

The CHAIRMAN. This is true of maintenance also? You do not need anything for maintenance and preservation up to the 1st of January?

Mr. SAYERS. He would not need these two items.

Mr. ENDICOTT. Not up to the 1st of January.

The CHAIRMAN. He will have a deficiency of \$200,000 for these two items up to the 1st of next July.

Mr. ENDICOTT. Current expenses will continue on a small scale. We want permission to employ expert aids, etc.

The CHAIRMAN. Did not the naval bill take care of you?

Mr. ENDICOTT. No, sir.

SATURDAY, May 14, 1898.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

ADDITIONAL CLERICAL FORCE.

A subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations, consisting of Hon. H. H. Bingham, chairman, and Hon. Alexander M. Dockery, having under consideration House document No. 455, being a deficiency appropriation for War Department, this day met at the War Department.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY.

STATEMENT OF MR. JOHN TWEEDALE, CHIEF CLERK, WAR DEPARTMENT.

The CHAIRMAN. How are these estimates for these several bureaus and divisions of the War Department made up?

Mr. TWEEDALE. They are sent around to all the bureaus requesting them to make up their estimates as near as they could for the additional force that is required by reason of the present emergency.

The CHAIRMAN. How have you been meeting the clerical requirements in view of the present emergency, as you state it?

Mr. TWEEDALE. Out of that \$50,000,000 emergency appropriation we got some money out of which these appointments have been made.

The CHAIRMAN. How many appointments have been made?

Mr. TWEEDALE. That I do not know. The Assistant Secretary has made the appointments, and he has confined himself almost entirely to stenographers and typewriters, and has kept the salary down to \$1,000 and under.

The CHAIRMAN. Those are the temporary appointments?

Mr. TWEEDALE. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. They are not under civil service?

Mr. TWEEDALE. No.

The CHAIRMAN. And can not be under civil service because it is too slow?

Mr. TWEEDALE. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. And these here will be independent of civil service, being an emergency?

Mr. TWEEDALE. All of these appointments will be independent of the civil service.

The CHAIRMAN. For salaries, office of Secretary of War. Did you make that up?

Mr. TWEEDALE. I sent around to all of our divisions to see what the condition of the work was and asked to know how many clerks they needed, and then I asked the Assistant Secretary to appropriate for that many.

The CHAIRMAN. The Secretary's office, I see in the bill which is now a law, for the next fiscal year has \$96,700 allowances for 72 clerks. This proposition from the Secretary's office increases the number of clerks 15, and calls for 2 messengers, 1 assistant messenger, 10 expert telegraph operators, 1 delivery clerk, and 3 telegraph messengers. Now, those are necessary for the increased work?

Mr. TWEEDALE. Those are absolutely necessary.

The CHAIRMAN. You think they are reduced as low as you possibly can?

Mr. TWEEDALE. As low as we possibly can.

The CHAIRMAN. And the employment of this force will not be made unless it is necessary as you go on?

Mr. TWEEDALE. Not unless it is necessary; and if we find the work is slackening up the people will be discharged.

The CHAIRMAN. Your purpose is to keep down the expenses as low as possible?

Mr. TWEEDALE. Absolutely; yes. We found, of course, it would be necessary to make communication around the country, and we prepared so that this force—

The CHAIRMAN. I see you have stated, "nearly the maximum force as estimated above is now employed in the telegraph office."

Mr. TWEEDALE. Yes; and we have increased the hours of labor all the way through the Department.

The CHAIRMAN. What are the hours of labor now?

Mr. TWEEDALE. Five o'clock. Of course a great many stay later. I am here almost always until 6 o'clock and very frequently work at night.

STATIONERY.

The CHAIRMAN. Come to the stationery. What is your allowance for stationery. I have it here. You are allowed \$22,500 for stationery. You were allowed \$25,000 in the current legislation and \$22,500 for next year. Of course your stationery account has necessarily increased?

Mr. TWEEDALE. It was certainly increased by reason of the demands, and also we have to get desks for these new clerks.

The CHAIRMAN. Does that come out of stationery?

Mr. TWEEDALE. Yes, sir; that comes out of stationery and miscellaneous.

CONTINGENT EXPENSES.

The CHAIRMAN. For contingent expenses you ask \$12,000; will that cover it?

Mr. TWEEDALE. For the contingent expenses of the office, we think it will. We have made a careful estimate and think we can get along with \$12,000—that is, for the six months.

The CHAIRMAN. Yes. Now in regard to printing and binding?

Mr. TWEEDALE. So soon as the declaration of war was made a vast number of requisitions were made, and I wrote a letter which was transmitted and got \$50,000 for that purpose, which was used up in a week.

The CHAIRMAN. That is, from the \$50,000,000 appropriation you got \$50,000 allowed for that, and I understand that you used that up in a week?

Mr. TWEEDALE. Yes; because we had to get ready for all the rolls of these 125,000 men. Now we have got those so the demands will not be quite so heavy, but they are coming in very rapidly at the present time and that will take all that is asked for there.

The CHAIRMAN. And will not be expended unless absolutely necessary?

Mr. TWEEDALE. No; the Public Printer handles that part of it.

The CHAIRMAN. Is this estimate based upon any statements of his, or is it your own estimate on averages?

Mr. TWEEDALE. It is our own estimate on averages. I sent down and asked what our balance was, and I found we had used all up but about \$1,500, so I immediately called on the emergency appropriation because it could not wait.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there anything else you want to say in connection with printing and binding outside of this note?

Mr. TWEEDALE. No; of course we have to have all the printing and binding necessary for the Volunteer Army.

Mr. DOCKERY. You do not know anything about the estimate except as submitted by the subordinates?

Mr. TWEEDALE. No; you refer to the other bureaus?

Mr. DOCKERY. Yes, the Secretary's office is the only one you know about?

Mr. TWEEDALE. Yes, that is the only one I speak for.

Mr. DOCKERY. Now you are asking for this force for six months, from July 1 to December 31, 1898, and I understand you heretofore have submitted a lump estimate of \$50,000 for the balance of this year?

Mr. TWEEDALE. For the balance of this year, and then the Department wrote the following letter itemizing that.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *Washington, May 6, 1898.*

SIR: In response to your verbal inquiry I have the honor to state that the estimate of \$50,000 submitted by this Department to meet a deficiency in salaries for the clerical force under the title of "Additional employees for War Department" (see House Document No. 446, present session) was based upon the needs of the War Department and its bureaus, so far as could be determined at the time the estimate was prepared and in accordance with the following schedule of amounts required by each office and bureau:

Secretary's office.....	\$10,000.00
Adjutant-General	7,740.01
Inspector-General	2,306.00
Quartermaster-General	6,085.00
Commissary-General of Subsistence	6,592.00
Surgeon-General	3,016.80
Paymaster-General	5,000.00
Chief of Ordnance	2,000.00
Chief of Engineers	1,000.00
Chief Signal Officer.....	466.66
Contingencies for salaries (if needed)	5,793.53
Total	50,000.00

As the foregoing schedule is only approximate and not based on known requirements of what the future may develop, it is desired that the funds, if appropriated may be placed in the hands of the Secretary of War to be expended in his discretion and under his immediate supervision as the exigencies of the situation may require.

It is believed that the amount asked for will be sufficient to meet the demand until June 30, 1898. Any unexpended balance will revert to the Treasury. By arrangement with the Civil Service Commission, it is intended that all appointments shall be made directly by the Secretary of War in order to obtain the character of clerical assistance desired at this time.

The estimates for the additional employees required by the Department, covering a period of six months from July 1, 1898, will be forwarded to Congress through the Honorable Secretary of the Treasury to-morrow.

Very respectfully,

G. D. MEIKLEJOHN,
Assistant Secretary of War.

Hon. J. G. CANNON,
*Chairman Committee on Appropriations,
House of Representatives.*

Mr. DOCKERY. Do you want that additional to this?

Mr. TWEEDALE. But that is for this fiscal year. We want it this way.

The CHAIRMAN. That runs you until the 1st of July and then this commences on the 1st of July and runs for six months?

Mr. TWEEDALE. Yes; as I stated, we got something from the emergency appropriation, but to do that we had to clip off various things which had been allotted and contracted for because of the rush for extra force to run our business. Now, if we have the extra clerks, we can save that and let it go back to the allotment again.

Mr. DOCKERY. Why not make this appropriation for that proper and make it available at once—

Mr. TWEEDALE. From now until the first of the year?

Mr. DOCKERY (continuing). Or for a six-months' period? You can not and nobody can estimate at this time the duration of the war.

Mr. TWEEDALE. No; but that will carry us over until Congress gets together again.

Mr. DOCKERY. Did you make the estimate for the office of the Secretary?

Mr. TWEEDALE. Yes.

Mr. DOCKERY. Do I understand you to say these clerks can not be selected under civil service?

Mr. TWEEDALE. The Assistant Secretary had a conversation with the Civil Service Commissioners, and he told them about the assistance needed and that we had to have them immediately. Now there were some people selected, but they were from a distance, and they said: "If those are simply temporary appointments, we can not afford to leave our present employment and come on for a few months;" and so we had to pick up people wherever we could get them.

Mr. DOCKERY. That was on account of the emergency and a very proper action.

Mr. TWEEDALE. Yes.

Mr. DOCKERY. Of course I assume, Mr. Tweedale, that the estimates are necessarily conjectural. There are more elements of doubt about these estimates than would be in respect to estimates for a regular force?

Mr. TWEEDALE. Very much so.

Mr. DOCKERY. You are quite sure these estimates for the office of the Secretary are within the limits of the requirements of the office and not excessive?

Mr. TWEEDALE. They are not excessive at all. No, we cut them down just as low as we possibly could.

The CHAIRMAN. The office of the Secretary has for the next year \$96,700, and that is predicated on the basis of 1,081 subordinate force in the War Department. This is an increase of the subordinate force of 244 additional employees, the present force being 1,081. In other words, it takes 1,081 of the present officers to handle the old Army; but this is a proposition to handle the volunteers called for, together with the increase of the Regular Army to 61,000 or more, and to my mind seems reasonable.

Mr. TWEEDALE. And for the contingencies and miscellaneous—that is, for the entire Department, because the bureaus do not spend any money. That is all done by the office of the Secretary.

Mr. DOCKERY. Do I understand from these estimates that it is contemplated by the estimates to keep your work current under the provisions of the act of July 31, 1894, requiring you to pass the accounts of the office within a certain time?

Mr. TWEEDALE. Yes; except this—the Secretary of the Treasury has extended the requirements of that law; so, instead of having ten and twenty days, we now have twenty and forty days. You understand that?

Mr. DOCKERY. I know that order and it is a very proper order, made by reason of the war; that is, extending the monthly accounts from ten days to twenty days and the quarterly accounts from twenty days to forty days. Of course that is an exten-

sion for the benefit of officers rendering their accounts in the first place, but do you contemplate by this estimate, as I understand it, to take care of the auditing work of your Department and keep it current as required by that statute?

Mr. TWEEDALE. Yes, sir; not to have any delay in the work of the Department.

The CHAIRMAN. Pardon me, but in that connection I observe, with one exception, your limitation has put the compensation at \$1,000 per annum. There is but one exception, and that is a clerk in the Adjutant General's Office at \$1,600, by special authority of the Assistant Secretary of War, submitted, \$800 for six months, but I observe all the other clerks are estimated for at not exceeding \$1,000.

Mr. TWEEDALE. Yes, that is the Assistant Secretary's intention. He told me so.

PRINTING.

Mr. DOCKERY. In regard to the item of printing, \$100,000, that does not involve any clerical force at all?

Mr. TWEEDALE. No.

Mr. DOCKERY. And you reached your judgment in respect to that by the experience already had in connection with the war?

Mr. TWEEDALE. By our experience of the last few days. There is this creation of a new army, and all the printing for the Army has to be gotten out at once—blank forms, books, description books, and everything of that kind for all headquarters.

The CHAIRMAN. Every regiment, brigade, division, and corps must have its own distinctive records, etc.?

Mr. DOCKERY. It will require a rate of expenditure which is estimated up to this time of about \$25,000 per month?

Mr. TWEEDALE. Yes.

Mr. DOCKERY. No; it would be a diminished rate the next six months, because the rate heretofore you estimate at about \$25,000 a month.

Mr. TWEEDALE. We went over that very carefully. Of course these expenditures are made upon requisitions. The requisition goes to the Public Printer, on which he makes an estimate and then it has to come back and is examined, and then it goes back and the amount is set aside from that appropriation, and if our requisitions do not cover that the money remains in the Treasury.

Mr. DOCKERY. I recognize this fact, Mr. Tweedale, speaking for myself, that your estimates have more or less of doubt necessarily.

Mr. TWEEDALE. Yes; that is true.

Mr. DOCKERY. And we are compelled in a measure to accept the estimates, because we do not have the information that you have, and necessarily there may be some doubt about the estimates you submit, but you are satisfied upon a review of those estimates that they are proper, and will be probably required by the demands of the service?

Mr. TWEEDALE. Yes, sir.

Mr. DOCKERY. I want to make the point clear. You propose under this estimate to keep the work of auditing current?

Mr. TWEEDALE. To keep the work of auditing and all the other work of the Department current—right up to date. The endeavor of the Department and the endeavor of every official is to clean up every day the work of that day.

The CHAIRMAN. And it is a necessity?

Mr. TWEEDALE. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. In your communication to the chiefs of the respective bureaus throughout the Department they were enjoined in submitting estimates to make them economical and wholly within the lines of emergency necessities?

Mr. TWEEDALE. They were.

OFFICE OF CHIEF OF ORDNANCE.

STATEMENT OF MAJ. V. McNALLY.

The CHAIRMAN. You ask an appropriation of \$15,580 for the next six months commencing on the 1st of July?

Major McNALLY. Yes, sir; for twenty-five clerks.

The CHAIRMAN. How many clerks have you in your bureau now?

Major McNALLY. I do not know; about thirty, I think.

The CHAIRMAN. How are you doing your increased work now?

Major McNALLY. We have either twelve or thirteen additional clerks now.

The CHAIRMAN. Allowed by an allotment from the \$50,000,000 fund?

Major McNALLY. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. Those you have employed?

Major McNALLY. Fully employed, and we are still crowded. The work is constantly increasing, and when the returns commence coming in from the volunteers I

do not know that twenty-five will be sufficient. It is mere guesswork, and we may need fifty.

The CHAIRMAN. Is it your purpose to continue the dozen you have already appointed with this additional force?

Major McNALLY. It is not.

The CHAIRMAN. Those you have now are from the emergency fund—

Major McNALLY. And will last us until the 1st of July.

The CHAIRMAN. And you think you are within the necessary limitation, do you?

Major McNALLY. I think we are, but it is a mere guess. If the war ends, we will not need as many. If it continues, why 25, possibly, may be only a beginning. During the civil war we had 240 clerks in the office—one hundred and eighty odd in the property division alone.

Mr. DOCKERY. Your purpose is, under this increased estimate, to have a close and critical examination of property returns?

Major McNALLY. Yes. It is a very necessary thing, because officers may pass out of the service, and hundreds of thousands of dollars were lost during the war in that very way by officers passing out of the service and getting final payments before reaching their final accounts.

Mr. DOCKERY. And it is very important to keep that work current?

Major McNALLY. Absolutely necessary.

Mr. DOCKERY. Because there is no audit of property returns except your own audit?

Major McNALLY. Not except ours.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that work current now?

Major McNALLY. Yes, it is all current work, and we are working until nearer 6 o'clock every evening than 5 o'clock.

Mr. DOCKERY. You think that number of clerks will be necessary?

Major McNALLY. I think it will be absolutely necessary, and probably we will need more.

The CHAIRMAN. If the war continues, from your experience your judgment is that this will be below the actual requirements?

Major McNALLY. We will probably need double the force we have now.

OFFICE OF COMMISSARY-GENERAL.

STATEMENT OF GEN. CHARLES P. HAGAN, COMMISSARY-GENERAL OF SUBSISTENCE.

The CHAIRMAN. Will you state to us anything you may have to say in reference to your estimate for an increased force?

General EAGAN. I have only recently come into the office, and it was urged upon me the first thing that I should have fifty additional clerks, and then I said "make it forty." Our department, as you know, passes upon every dollar disbursed by every officer, volunteer and regular, before they go to the auditor. We do auditor's and comptroller's work, and the accountability for this money is simply appalling. I give you my word of honor that if I find forty men to be one in excess I will be glad to get rid of them.

The CHAIRMAN. How many additional force have you now from the emergency fund?

General EAGAN. In the office I think we have three or four.

The CHAIRMAN. That is all the increase you have in your force?

General EAGAN. Three or four; but I would like to verify it. I would be more specific if I had been in the office a little longer. I would rather have forty than sixty if I can do it with the forty. The trouble is growing very fast. My work is work that has to be done, and I do not leave the office myself until half past 6.

The CHAIRMAN. You keep on your force longer—

General EAGAN. A majority of them I keep—

The CHAIRMAN (continuing). Than 5 o'clock evenings?

General EAGAN. Oh, yes, sir. I gave an order last night the office hours should be according to when anybody was needed.

The CHAIRMAN. I have no more to say.

Mr. DOCKERY. I am quite content with the statement of the General; the work of your office is surpassingly important.

General EAGAN. You know we are buying in open market. We are buying at every point in the United States. Everybody is buying now. People just come in the service are buying for a time, and I would like to keep the work of the office up. I assure you I will not ask for a clerk more than is necessary.

Mr. DOCKERY. In respect to the matter of auditing in your office, under whose immediate supervision is that work audited?

General EAGAN. Mine.

Mr. DOCKERY. Your immediate supervision?

General EAGAN. I have to approve everything. I have to go over everything and sign it. I transmit it audited to the auditor and comptroller.

Mr. CHAIRMAN. Your approval under the law is required?

General EAGAN. Absolutely.

The CHAIRMAN. Your approval is not pro forma, but critical?

General EAGAN. Not at all. I make stoppages, so much so that I stop from a cent to \$1,000 or \$1,500, and demand an accountability irrespective of what the Auditor and Comptroller do. In fact the Auditor and Comptroller never find any difference in the action of our office. We have double duty there.

Mr. DOCKERY. So far as your office is concerned they have done excellently well heretofore. It has been the equal of any auditing office anywhere.

General EAGAN. Thank you; I want to keep it up.

Mr. DOCKERY. And we do not want in the emergency of this war to give any cause for or to have any scandal?

General EAGAN. I have just come in as Commissary-General, and I think it is the opportunity of my life. I do not want any more clerks than I possibly can do with. I would rather have ten than to have twenty. It is like having a small number or a large number of servants in a house.

Mr. DOCKERY. We want to give you the clerks so as to provide for a condition of the very highest excellence in the work of your office.

General EAGAN. I make it my personal business to know about the clerks. I need these clerks, and if I find I do not need any single one of them I will promptly get rid of them.

OFFICE OF QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL.

STATEMENT OF GEN. M. I. LUDINGTON, QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL.

The CHAIRMAN. You think your estimate here of \$17,500 for 35 clerks is necessary? This, I understand, is from the 1st of July until the 31st of December?

General LUDINGTON. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Did you make your estimate as low as you thought you possibly could?

General LUDINGTON. If I had it to do over again I would make it larger, for we are almost rushed to death.

The CHAIRMAN. What is your additional force now?

General LUDINGTON. Our clerks are almost worn out. I do not know exactly how many have been appointed to our office.

The CHAIRMAN. How long do your subordinates work now?

General LUDINGTON. I work until 12 o'clock and some others do, too.

The CHAIRMAN. Some of the clerks work overtime?

General LUDINGTON. Yes. Sometimes we work until 1 o'clock. The work is just overwhelming. We can not get these clerks too soon now; and, as I say, if I had it to do over again I would ask for more.

The CHAIRMAN. Your department is rushed, and will continue to be rushed, as of course supplies are continuing?

Mr. DOCKERY. Your purpose is to keep your work current?

General LUDINGTON. We are going to do so.

The CHAIRMAN. You have to do so?

General LUDINGTON. We have to do so; yes. I see the Commissary-General put in more than I did, and I am afraid I made it too low.

The CHAIRMAN. He said they estimated for 50 in his office and he cut it down to 40. You estimate for 35 clerks?

General LUDINGTON. Yes. Well, now will you let me change that in case I think it is necessary?

The CHAIRMAN. If you find it necessary you had better communicate at once with the Secretary and have him communicate with Mr. Cannon, chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, and that you should do to-day because he may want to take this matter up on Monday or Tuesday.

General LUDINGTON. You see this was made sometime ago, before we realized the volume of work.

Mr. DOCKERY. It is a very recent estimate.

The CHAIRMAN. May 6. Well, you can think about the matter, and if you see proper to speak to your Secretary and have him transmit a communication to Mr. Cannon you had better do so. I can understand easily in the two offices of subsistence and Quartermaster-General there is a great deal of work.

Thereupon the subcommittee adjourned.

SATURDAY, May 28, 1898.

MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT.

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT.

STATEMENT OF GEN. CHARLES P. EAGAN, COMMISSARY-GENERAL OF SUBSISTENCE, UNITED STATES ARMY.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, this supplemental estimate which I hold in my hand, House Document No. 495, is not contained in the galley, but is an estimate of \$5,000,000 for six months' subsistence to be given to 150,000 people, estimated at 28 cents a day!

General EAGAN. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. That is for subsistence alone?

General EAGAN. Yes; absolutely.

The CHAIRMAN. Is it high enough?

General EAGAN. I think it is enough, sir; and I will tell you why I think so. I shall submit to the Secretary of War a special ration, and if he approves it, I hope it will not cost so much. That is the only safe way I could estimate on that.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Is this estimate intended to give the reconcentrados a full ration?

General EAGAN. Yes; that is to say, such a ration as we will determine. As I say now, I will recommend a modified ration. They want corn meal instead of flour and various other things, and I have submitted it to the Secretary of War for his approval, and if he approves it they will get that.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. You do not want them to eat too much, for it will be extremely dangerous to stuff them up if they have been starving.

General EAGAN. I intend to recommend something of a modified ration. I sum this up by saying that I guess at 150,000 all told. You gentlemen can guess at that as well as I can.

The CHAIRMAN. This can not be an accurate estimate?

General EAGAN. No, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. In your judgment it is large enough to care for subsistence for soldiers who may come in up to the 1st of January next and for the poor, as contemplated by that act?

General EAGAN. To carry out its provisions, and the feeding of all coming in under that act, is under the direction of the commanding generals in the different places.

The CHAIRMAN. You think this is enough?

General EAGAN. Yes, sir; I think it is enough, but there is no accuracy about it; it is a guess.

The CHAIRMAN. The next estimate which you give, on page 9 of the galley, is for six months, beginning July 1, 1898, for subsistence, and you estimate the amount of \$10,219,635. This estimate, however, was made prior to the late call for the 75,000 additional volunteers?

General EAGAN. Yes, sir; entirely. It does not embrace one of them at all.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, does it cover all troops authorized by the Regular Army legislation and immunes, and everything authorized up to the time of its submission?

General EAGAN. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. That contemplates the increase of the Regular Army to 60,000 plus and the 10,000 immunes?

General EAGAN. And the 3,500 engineers and 125,000 volunteers.

Mr. SAYERS. But not the second call?

General EAGAN. No, sir; that call has been made since this estimate was submitted.

The CHAIRMAN. I understand. That will be for the service including this fiscal year, and what you have had heretofore estimated up to the 1st of July—

General EAGAN. And until the 31st of December, that is my estimate.

The CHAIRMAN. And you are satisfied you have got enough?

General EAGAN. Yes, I think I have. But this is a very much more accurate estimate than that of the \$5,000,000. This is a very close calculation. I have not got much latitude on this.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. How about the 75,000 additional call?

General EAGAN. I will have to ask more. I will have to come before the committee again.

The CHAIRMAN. We want that estimate for the 75,000 formally submitted from the Secretary of War through the Secretary of the Treasury, but are you prepared to say now about what the estimate will be for subsistence of the 75,000 men?

General EAGAN. From now until the end of December?

The CHAIRMAN. Yes.

General EAGAN. I will have to do a little calculating.

The CHAIRMAN. When can that estimate be ready for transmission to us?

General EAGAN. I can get it out in an hour or an hour and a half. This has to be done through the Adjutant-General, but I can ask him to expedite it and ask the Secretary to look at it and get it into your hands as soon as possible.

The CHAIRMAN. I wish you would do it, and ask the Secretary to have the thing done, covering the estimate of 75,000 additional volunteers.

General EAGAN. Would you like to know in advance the amount asked, before it comes to you formally?

The CHAIRMAN. If you like; but we also want it formally by Monday if we can get it.

General EAGAN. I will get it out of my office in an hour.

The CHAIRMAN. When you come to make that estimate, will you make it from the day of the call or will you make it from the middle of June or the 1st of July?

General EAGAN. I will begin on the 1st of June.

The CHAIRMAN. Although no steps have yet been taken?

Mr. SAYERS. Mr. Cannon, there are a great many commands ready now to walk into the service.

General EAGAN. I might defer it until the 10th.

The CHAIRMAN. You had better make it the 1st of June to the 31st day of December inclusive.

General EAGAN. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there anything else you want to add?

General EAGAN. No, sir. Well, there is one little item which has been entirely overlooked by my predecessor, that I shall be very glad for you to put in in connection with the 75,000 additional men. We pay clerical help out of the appropriation, as you know, and my predecessor in making that \$10,000,000 estimate never took into account the calling into service of a large number of civilian clerks for all of these disbursing officers whose pay comes out of this appropriation.

The CHAIRMAN. Clerks to what do you mean?

General EAGAN. Chiefs of commissary, etc., who are responsible for stores, etc.

The CHAIRMAN. They have got their clerks, yes.

General EAGAN. But in addition to the clerical force of the Department, which has been quite large—

The CHAIRMAN. And necessarily so, but let me ask you; you say that this \$10,000,000 does not cover it?

General EAGAN. Not in my judgment, provided—

The CHAIRMAN. Is there money enough for it?

General EAGAN. It will be a close guess.

The CHAIRMAN. What do you estimate the increased clerical force will cost? I am speaking now of the field. I am not asking about departmental matters.

General EAGAN. These officers going to the field I should estimate at about 50 men. I would estimate about \$60,000 to cover that whole thing.

The CHAIRMAN. The clerical people are people in civil life and are practically still in civil life; you do not muster them in?

General EAGAN. No; not at all.

The CHAIRMAN. They get their pay, but they do not get subsistence?

General EAGAN. Nothing else.

The CHAIRMAN. They get transportation?

General EAGAN. Oh, yes, sir.

Mr. NORTHWAY. Do they live with the army?

General EAGAN. They live with the army and eat with the army as best they can. Some of them get \$150 and some \$125, some \$100, and some few \$75.

Mr. SAYERS. They are attachés of the Army?

General EAGAN. Certainly.

The CHAIRMAN. I think this provision covers it: "For compensation of civilians employed in the Subsistence Department, and for other necessary expenses incident to the purchase, care, preservation, issue, sale, and accounting for subsistence and supplies to the Army." It seems to me, as far as the law is concerned, that item covers it.

General EAGAN. But the money does not. I made inquiry. I did not make that out, and I went over that afterwards, and I asked this morning if this increased clerical force had been taken into account, and they said no.

The CHAIRMAN. In that connection, does that \$60,000 take into consideration the new call also for 75,000 volunteers?

General EAGAN. Yes, sir; I think it covers that.

The CHAIRMAN. Then you want to revise this estimate, and in making it out you mean to say you do not take into consideration the compensation of civilian employees in the subsistence outfit—

General EAGAN. No, and I estimate it would take about \$60,000.

The CHAIRMAN. To cover all the troops, including the 75,000 additional?

General EAGAN. Yes, if for instance with the \$10,000,000 asked was added

\$60,000, to cover the item of increase of clerical and laboring force, that would be all that would be necessary.

The CHAIRMAN. I would ask you in that matter when you come to make your estimate for this 75,000 men to put in that \$60,000.

General EAGAN. I will do so.

ENGINEER DEPARTMENT.

STATEMENT OF GEN. JOHN M. WILSON, CHIEF OF ENGINEERS, U. S. ARMY.

The CHAIRMAN. You submit an estimate for ponton trains, intrenching tools instruments, etc., for the first six months of the coming fiscal year, \$75,000?

General WILSON. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Does that take into account the Army as it will be?

General WILSON. Not the 75,000 just called out. I have a little memorandum here if you wish me to speak of this, knowing perhaps what you gentlemen wanted.

The \$75,000 is to purchase for use of the Volunteer Army for the six months ending December 31, 1898, the following:

1. Pontoon equipage	\$10,000
2. Instruments, etc	15,000
3. Intrenching tools	50,000

Total 75,000

1. The pontoon equipage to consist of canvas pontoons, with frames, canvas boxes, anchors, trestles, chess, balk, lashings, wagons, tools, etc.

2. Instruments, etc., include all those needed for reconnaissances and all the paraphernalia for making and reproducing maps for use of the Army. The instruments proper are prismatic compasses, hand levels, clinometers, odometers, cavalry sketching cases, transits, levels, tapes, cameras, and sextants. In addition there will be required for platting, drawing instruments, scales, protractors, drawing paper, tracing linen, pencils, and ink; for reproduction of maps, blue printing outfit, photographic supplies, blue print, and bromide paper, and chemicals.

3. Intrenching tools consist of picks, shovels, spades, axes, hatchets, saws, brush knives, wire, rope, blocks, sand bags, etc., sapper and miners' picks and shovels, wire cutters, explosives, crowbars, etc.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, that includes the Army as it was authorized, on the supposition that it would be full as authorized, up to the call for 75,000 additional volunteers?

General WILSON. Up to just before that call.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, does that call necessitate anything additional?

General WILSON. I do not think I will ask for any more. I think I can get along with that. I have been cutting the garment according to the cloth, and all my people have. I am trying to keep my people down as low as I can.

The CHAIRMAN. This is enough?

General WILSON. That is my opinion.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, the next item is for services of surveyors, draftsmen, etc.?

General WILSON. Yes.

The estimate heretofore submitted and covered by the deficiency act of May 4, \$50,000, has been, and is to be, applied to equipment of troops of Regular Army, and should not be considered in connection with that now asked for Volunteer Army.

The \$40,000 for civilian assistants is intended for the employment of surveyors, draftsmen, clerks, photographers, etc. There will probably be 7 army corps and 21 divisions, so that the estimate is about \$1,400 for each.

These are for draftsmen and men who work at night and go and assist in the topographical surveys and prepare maps and keep records. Each officer has to have some one to help him in work of that kind. We had them during the late war.

General WILSON. Yes, sir; I would like to have \$20,000 more—making \$60,000 in all.

The CHAIRMAN. I wish you would submit an estimate for that; will you?

General WILSON. Yes, sir; I have submitted to the Secretary some items which I do not see in here. I sent them in several days ago. One was for \$2,562,000 and another for \$1,836,000.

Mr. NORTHWAY. When were they sent in?

General WILSON. May 14 and May 24; and I will explain that in a moment. General Flagler got a large amount of money from this \$50,000,000 emergency fund. I did not know anything about that; and he ordered 26 heavy guns and 197 rapid-fire guns. I incidentally heard of it, and the moment I heard of it I put in an estimate for the money to prepare the emplacements for those guns, and then I had to put in

an additional estimate for my torpedo system. The vessels are running through, destroying my mines, and I had to put in an additional estimate for some material for boats and men to watch those vessels during the day time, and to prevent vessels from entering them at night. At New York Harbor the *La Touraine* went through and killed two men and upset one of the largest lighters and sent a lot of torpedoes adrift with a hundred pounds of dynamite in them, and where they are nobody knows. I do not.

Mr. NORTHWAY. Who did that?

General WILSON. The *La Touraine*, a French steamer. That has been reported to Congress. Not long ago another vessel, whose name escapes me, ran through and injured some of our men, and it has kept us busily employed. These things are going on all the time, and it seems that I can not get them to understand it is war.

The CHAIRMAN. Now I want to talk about these items for which you say you have submitted estimates to the Secretary. We have not got either of these estimates.

General WILSON. I will state this about it:

The estimate for \$2,562,000 is to provide emplacements for 26 sea coast guns and carriages and 197 rapid-fire guns, which the Ordnance Department will furnish from funds allotted from the emergency appropriation for national defense.

26 emplacements for heavy modern guns, at \$50,000	\$1,300,000
80 emplacements for 3-inch rapid-fire guns, at \$1,000	320,000
57 emplacements for 5-inch rapid-fire guns, at \$6,000	342,000
40 emplacements for 6-inch rapid-fire guns, at \$15,000	600,000

Total	2,562,000
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The CHAIRMAN. Let me ask you about these. When are these emplacements to be made?

General WILSON. These guns are all ordered, and we expect to get them within, say, the next three months. The moment I get the money I want to start on those emplacements, because I am much mortified when a gun and carriage is ready that I am not ready to put it in position. Now, I have this further note. The \$3,000,000 appropriated for gun and mortar batteries by act April 25, 1898, will be applied to emplacements for guns and carriages to be obtained by Ordnance Department from appropriation in same bill:

26 8, 10, and 12 inch guns	\$1,300,000
100 12-inch mortars	1,250,000
45 R. F. guns	450,000

Total	3,000,000
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The money you give for emplacements will be for guns which General Flagler will buy from the money you gave him to buy guns. He has advertised for them, but will not get them for some time, and one of these balances the other, according to your bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Then, I understand from you that the Ordnance Department, as you are informed, bought certain guns other than from the appropriation ordinarily made for the Ordnance Department—that is, that they did not get these guns from Bethlehem—

General WILSON. I do not know where they came from, but they bought them.

The CHAIRMAN. That is, they bought them from the outside, and they are to be delivered, as you are informed, in three months?

General WILSON. Some in three months and some between now and the 1st of October. They commence delivering on the 15th of August, as I remember.

The CHAIRMAN. And this is to emplace—

General WILSON. Those guns; 26 heavy modern guns and 197 rapid-firing guns.

The CHAIRMAN. What is the amount of your estimate?

General WILSON. \$2,562,000.

Mr. NORTHWAY. And these guns were paid for out of the emergency fund and no account was taken of the emplacements to get them ready?

General WILSON. No. A greater portion of this money was obtained from the emergency fund and some in the last deficiency act for those guns he is now buying; that is my impression.

The CHAIRMAN. All you can say is that if these guns are to be emplaced which are bought it will take \$2,562,000 for this purpose?

General WILSON. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. And your appropriations in the regular fortifications bill do not cover this?

General WILSON. No, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you recollect whether these emplacements covered by the regular fortifications appropriation bill are all to be made during the coming year?

General WILSON. Yes, sir; I have got it all down here. I have a full statement here. It is all here if you want the information.

The CHAIRMAN. So, if these guns are emplaced, you have to have this \$2,562,000.

General WILSON. Yes, exactly. Now, on May 24 I sent in still another estimate. Some years ago a dynamite battery of pneumatic guns was built in San Francisco by the Ordnance Department under a regular act of Congress. It stood out in the open weather entirely uncovered, and I have been instructed to prepare a cover and emplacements for covering that.

Gun and mortar batteries:

Dynamite battery, San Francisco.....	\$150,000
Range and position finder installation	150,000

Torpedoes for harbor defense:

Defenses at Philippines	150,000
Care and maintenance of mine fields at 30 harbors 184 days, at \$4,000 per day.....	736,000
Additional torpedo material, including search lights, electric plants, etc.	650,000

Total	1,836,000
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Now, my first estimate went in May 14 for \$2,562,000, and the second one went in May 24 for \$1,836,000.

The CHAIRMAN. All that you can say about these estimates is that you had sent them in to the Secretary of War?

General WILSON. Yes, sir; and they were necessary.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, have you submitted all you desire in the shape of estimates?

General WILSON. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. And this cares for the public service—

General WILSON. To the 1st day of January, 1899.

The CHAIRMAN. And covers all deficiencies for the current year?

General WILSON. Yes, sir; so far as I can gain the information, and I believe it. There may be something to turn up that I can not foresee now.

The CHAIRMAN. Here is a war in progress—operations in Cuba, operations in Porto Rico; if anything should turn up, operations in the Philippines—in other words, it covers the whole thing as near as you can estimate?

General WILSON. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. With this estimate that you have made now, in addition to the appropriations heretofore made, as Chief of Engineers, if Congress were to adjourn this month, would you feel safe in saying that this money would be sufficient for the Engineer Corps, or that part of the work that comes under your direction?

General WILSON. I would.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. What kind of a war do you base that on—on an occupation of the Philippines, Puerto Rico, and Cuba?

General WILSON. You asked me on what kind of a war I based that. I am only calculating on a war to the 31st day of December next. If it goes beyond that, you gentlemen will have to appropriate additionally for it.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. I understand, but I meant to say, do you include the expense of occupying the Philippine Islands, Puerto Rico, etc., in this estimate?

General WILSON. I have provided for the Philippines elsewhere. You must understand that there is a little guesswork in this.

The CHAIRMAN. We understand, but you are a soldier—

General WILSON. I hope so.

The CHAIRMAN (continuing). And Chief of Engineers and you understand the military operations a great deal better than I do, and my question is whether or not the amount of money provided for the current coming fiscal year, plus the amount of these estimates, will be sufficient for the work under the Chief of Engineers up to and including the 31st day of December next?

General WILSON. That is my impression. Exactly what they have got in view in the future has not been communicated to me, and I am doing somewhat of guesswork on that.

The CHAIRMAN. I am asking the question as we stand, taking into consideration Porto Rico, Cuba, and the Philippines, covering the whole force of the Army to be augmented by the late call for 75,000 volunteers—

Mr. LIVINGSTON. You do not mean to say that if that call is increased by 200,000 more that will do?

General WILSON. No. When the question is put to me in the broad way in which Mr. Cannon has now put it I am very much afraid to say that \$75,000 for pontoon trains and intrenching tools, etc., would be sufficient. I told you it would, but in the broad way of which he has now put it, as these estimates were made out for 125,000 men, with 75,000 more men added, with the great possibilities of this thing as it may come out, I would like to say I would rather have that \$75,000 made

\$100,000, and that would give me \$25,000 more in intrenching tools, which is the great and important item.

The CHAIRMAN. You did add something?

General WILSON. I did in the other. I will be satisfied with that and say that is enough for the operations we have in prospect, so far as my department is concerned.

The CHAIRMAN. I wish in addition you would give us a supplemental estimate for this \$25,000, and the \$20,000 for surveyors, etc.

General WILSON. Yes; I will attend to that right away, sir.

PAY DEPARTMENT.

STATEMENT OF GEN. T. H. STANTON, PAYMASTER-GENERAL, U. S. ARMY.

The CHAIRMAN. You submit an aggregate for the Regular Army and for the Volunteers for six months of the coming fiscal year of \$29,044,070. That is an estimate that approximates a certainty, you counting the Army full under existing law?

General STANTON. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, since this estimate has been sent up there has been a call for 75,000 more men?

General STANTON. Yes, that is right. That estimate is to be finished to-day.

The CHAIRMAN. And will it be supposed to commence the 1st of June?

General STANTON. Yes, that begins the 1st of June.

The CHAIRMAN. And includes the 31st of December?

General STANTON. That is right.

The CHAIRMAN. You have not got the amount required there?

General STANTON. No, that is a separate estimate to be afterwards sent in.

The CHAIRMAN. That will come to us Monday. There is nothing you can say to us about this?

General STANTON. No; except it is as near as I can get at it based on the organization of the Army to-day.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. What amount is that to which you refer?

General STANTON. The pay of regulars and volunteers, \$25,026,266.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. That does not include the 75,000 men just called for?

General STANTON. No, sir; it is an estimate to be sent in. This was sent up before the troops were called out.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Then you have to amend that?

General STANTON. We will send in a supplemental estimate which we are preparing now, and will be ready on Monday. We were very much rushed with our work and could not get it ready before.

The CHAIRMAN. I will ask you, do you not put in your estimates which have accompanied the appropriations heretofore, "All the money hereinbefore appropriated, except the appropriation for mileage to officers when authorized by law, shall be disbursed and accounted for by the Pay Department as pay for the Army, and for that purpose shall constitute one fund?"

General STANTON. That should be in there. That will enable us to use the fund either for regulars or volunteers. That is a very important item, too. That was embodied in the deficiency up to June 30.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there anything else you want to call attention to?

General STANTON. Nothing at all.

MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL DEPARTMENT.

STATEMENT OF GEN. GEORGE M. STERNBERG, SURGEON- GENERAL UNITED STATES ARMY.

The CHAIRMAN. For the remainder of this fiscal year, under date of May 21, there is an estimate submitted by you for \$50,000?

General STERNBERG. Yes, sir; that is for outfitting the troops and general hospitals, etc.

The CHAIRMAN. And that amount is required?

General STERNBERG. That amount is fully required.

The CHAIRMAN. Then you present an estimate—the date I have not, but it is not material—for \$300,000?

General STERNBERG. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. For purchase of supplies, etc., for the first six months of the coming year?

General STERNBERG. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. That is for the increased force?

General STERNBERG. Yes, and it is as near as I can estimate, and if I have made any mistake it is on the side of not asking enough. My chief of medical department said I ought to say \$500,000, but I think as the more expensive part of the outfit will be purchased from our appropriations we are making for the present year that will do, but I may turn out to be mistaken.

The CHAIRMAN. You think that will enable us to carry on war as far as the Surgeon-General's Office is concerned?

General STERNBERG. That is my best judgment, but I may have to come to you and say I made a mistake, but that is as well as I can know now.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you taken into consideration the Philippines, Puerto Rico, Cuba, and everything?

General STERNBERG. Yes; of course the thing may spread out and I may be found to have made a mistake. It would have been a great deal safer to have said \$500,000.

The CHAIRMAN. That is almost double, you know?

General STERNBERG. I know, and it is really only a guess. You can not make any absolute estimate of these things as to what is going to be needed. We may have 10,000 men in general hospitals within three or four months for all I know, and we may not have 1,000. It depends entirely upon the military operations.

The CHAIRMAN. Suppose there are a lot of prisoners taken. Does this include that?

General STERNBERG. No. I have not considered that, but still the great expense, of course, is in fitting out the general hospitals. Now, if we had a large number of sick and wounded and had very active field operations, and I was called upon to provide for 5,000 to 10,000 men in general hospitals, why there would be an enormous expense connected with that. There are the beds and bedding to be bought, and every bed is going to cost a considerable amount of money.

The CHAIRMAN. Had you taken these things into consideration when you made this \$300,000 estimate?

General STERNBERG. I have considered it with an active campaign, and I have thought that would probably answer the purpose. I only want to hedge a little, and say that although I might be mistaken this is my best judgment.

The CHAIRMAN. You know Congress is going to adjourn presently and we want to provide for the public service up to and including the first half of the fiscal year?

General STERNBERG. You see our whole annual appropriation on the first of July will be available.

The CHAIRMAN. That I understand. Well, in view of that I think you have got enough.

General STERNBERG. I think so; I think we have got enough.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. If you have not you can make a deficiency in December?

General STERNBERG. We have got \$115,000 appropriation—

Mr. LIVINGSTON. That is for 1899?

General STERNBERG (continuing). And the whole of that could be used in case of need.

The CHAIRMAN. Precisely, but it is not contemplated under this estimate, however; the contemplation is one-half?

General STERNBERG. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, now for pay of 300 civilian nurses during the six months. That is supplementary?

General STERNBERG. That is an estimate for providing for contingencies in case we have these general hospitals.

The CHAIRMAN. These estimates you bring do not cover the new call for 75,000 people, or do they?

General STERNBERG. Well, I intended them to. They were really made in advance of the new call, though.

The CHAIRMAN. What I want to get at is whether you are going to send in another estimate on account of the new call?

General STERNBERG. No, I do not think it is necessary. I think I will get through with this.

The CHAIRMAN. In your judgment this will care for the Army as it was when you made the estimate and also for the Army as it will be with the 75,000 new men?

General STERNBERG. I think so.

The CHAIRMAN. From the standpoint of the Surgeon-General's expenditures?

General STERNBERG. Yes, sir; I think so.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. With your permission, Mr. Chairman, there is no chance of getting out of the annual appropriation, or any other appropriation, the pay for these nurses?

General STERNBERG. No.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. That seems to be specific. It seems to me you are too small for this specific appropriation, as you are headed off by specific legislation?

General STERNBERG. I am not dependent upon them alone. We have our hospital corps and we depend upon our enlisted men, and under existing laws we can get as many as we require, and they are paid by the Paymaster-General and we use them as far as they go, but if we establish large general hospitals we want, in addition to this hospital corps, to employ trained nurses. Some of those will be female trained nurses.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. I think the most of them ought to be.

General STERNBERG. It is to provide for trained nurses.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

STATEMENT OF GEN. D. W. FLAGLER, CHIEF OF ORDNANCE, WAR DEPARTMENT.

The CHAIRMAN. Your first item appears on page 18 and is "for the current expenses of the ordnance service, amount required to defray current expenses at arsenals and for receiving stores," etc. You submit for the next six months, the first half of the coming fiscal year, \$325,000. Your total appropriation for 1898—

General FLAGLER. Was \$110,000.

The CHAIRMAN. And you had a deficiency of \$95,000?

General FLAGLER. That was to run for the rest of this year.

The CHAIRMAN. And it is sufficient?

General FLAGLER. I think so. I would say in regard to that that there are a large number of items which it is impossible for us to foresee and to say in advance what is necessary, and which would cripple important interests if we did not have it. The appropriation depends upon the amount of work we have to do. I would say that now our work is increased from ten to twenty times over—not increased in that proportion as to expenses, but ten to twenty times more than usual, and there are a great many things which we can not tell about in advance. We are compelled to establish depots in the field.

In the civil war when we did that we did not have to add so many people to our Ordnance Department, because it was customary to detail the troops, but they have refused to detail them now. We have to hire storekeepers, laborers, etc., and we can not tell what the expense is going to be. We must have sufficient force, and we thought our expense would be four times as much for the next year, so I multiplied that \$110,000 by 4 and subtracted the \$110,000, so that would leave \$320,000, and I have called it \$325,000. It may be that much of it will be unexpended, and of course it will go back into the Treasury.

The CHAIRMAN. That was on the theory that you would use one-half of the \$125,000 for 1899, and you are now talking about the first six months of the coming year?

General FLAGLER. I think we would have to use it in the first six months.

The CHAIRMAN. I wanted to be talking about the same thing that you are. You have no deficiency for the balance of this year?

General FLAGLER. I should say that we would just about get through on our requisitions.

The CHAIRMAN. You got \$110,000 for 1898 and have had \$95,000 deficiency. You have in the Regular Army bill for next year \$125,000, and you ask here for the first six months of that year \$325,000 additional. These estimates are made up upon the theory that you will use one-half of the \$125,000 and \$325,000 besides.

General FLAGLER. Yes; I do not think that we will use it all, but as to the amount of expense, I can not estimate it closely. It would be especially dangerous to fall short and it would be unwise to make it less.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that enough, including the additional call of 75,000 men?

General FLAGLER. Yes; we thought of changing it, but I do not think the additional call would increase that expense so very greatly. It might increase it some, but I should think that this estimate would be a safe one.

The CHAIRMAN. That includes the incidental expenses of the operation of the Army in the war with Spain, and considers Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines.

General FLAGLER. Yes, sir. A good deal could be said upon the subject, but it would only be a repetition, and it is not necessary to go over it. Since the call I have had some conversation with the Quartermaster-General, and we have come to the conclusion that we can manage it.

The CHAIRMAN. For the manufacture of metallic ammunition, small arms, etc., you had for 1898 \$250,000. You had a deficiency of \$326,000 besides. You have got no deficiency other than that for the current year. Will that cover it?

General FLAGLER. It will have to. We are going to make it run close, and I hoped

that this might become available before the end of the year. For this year my idea is that I may have to transgress the law—that is, I would not have enough to pay every item as it comes in.

The CHAIRMAN. Your deficiency, if any, for the current year, will be small?

General FLAGLER. It will be. At the rate at which I am procuring ammunition I will probably by the end of June have procured more ammunition than the deficiency bill will pay for. If so, I will put in another estimate. The bills will not all come in until July.

The CHAIRMAN. The amount you have for the coming year in the Army is \$250,000, and you estimate in addition to the one-half of that amount for the first half of the coming fiscal year \$1,640,000?

General FLAGLER. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that enough?

General FLAGLER. No; you have an additional estimate which has been forwarded to you for \$2,600,000 more.

The CHAIRMAN. It has not come in yet [making a memorandum: "Another estimate not yet received, May 21, for \$2,600,000"].

General FLAGLER. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. When was this estimate made?

General FLAGLER. My notes say that it was made on the 21st. It has been forwarded by the Secretary of War.

The CHAIRMAN. This was submitted on the 19th of May.

General FLAGLER. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. What has come up to make this increase? This was for \$1,640,000, and two days afterwards you ask for \$2,600,000 more.

General FLAGLER. All that did not happen in two days. My first estimate was made several days before the date which you have. I prepared one four or five days before that, and since that time—say a week ago—it has been insisted upon by the generals that I should provide a thousand cartridges per man. That is about double the amount I had estimated for at first. No one can tell what is going to be expended for ammunition for the magazine arms and breech-loaders, because we have had no experience with them in war.

I have probably had more experience in the matter of ammunition for the troops than perhaps any other officer in the Army, or in any army, and I have based the estimate upon the experience of the civil war. I had that matter in my hands all through the war, and I know what was expended at Gettysburg, Antietam, and Chancellorsville, and what was expended in certain campaigns, and I put my figures at 500 rounds; but they insist that I must provide for 1,000 rounds. I will give you the details if you desire them, but it will provide sufficient cartridges for the first call.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you call it 1,000 rounds?

General FLAGLER. Yes, or cartridges; that is, 1,000 for the infantry. I still stand by my figures. If we get a thousand rounds for the first call, I think it will be enough, and I have not added anything more.

The CHAIRMAN. You think the thousand rounds provided for for the Regular Army and the 125,000 volunteers, and ammunition and so on covered by your appropriation, is sufficient, and you estimate that \$2,600,000 is enough to give all the ammunition that is required, not only for the force spoken of, but for the 75,000 men under the new call?

General FLAGLER. Yes. I think I will venture my reputation upon that.

The CHAIRMAN. So that you do not recommend any further increase on that?

General FLAGLER. No; I have not called for anything further under that heading.

The CHAIRMAN. For the purchase and manufacture of ordnance stores to fill requisitions of troops you have no further deficiency for the current year?

General FLAGLER. It is the same sort of estimate as the first item and I arrived at it in the same way.

The CHAIRMAN. So that \$520,000, you would say, is sufficient for the service for the first half of the coming fiscal year?

General FLAGLER. Yes; it is a difficult thing to make estimates for, and I have based them on experience; but we have had that much for the Regular Army in time of peace.

The CHAIRMAN. Would you want any more on account of the second call of volunteers?

General FLAGLER. No; I think I will let that stand. I think it is enough. I do not want to make these items any higher than is necessary.

The CHAIRMAN. For cavalry and military equipments, etc.?

General FLAGLER. I have added to that on account of this call \$625,000. That you will find in the second estimate that will come to you.

The CHAIRMAN. It seems your appropriation for 1899 on the regular army bill is \$215,000. With the \$200,000 and over you ask for \$962,000. You have got that a little high, or you have not got enough for the last item.

General FLAGLER. That is made up from a great many items.

The CHAIRMAN. Does it include machinery, tools, etc.?

General FLAGLER. That does not cut any figure. What will be spent in that way would be more than saved in other ways. I would say that we would let the \$962,000 for infantry, etc., equipment stand as it was started. We have some on hand. We also calculate that the troops will bring some and, besides, we have some of our regular army appropriation.

The CHAIRMAN. Two hundred and fifteen thousand dollars?

General FLAGLER. Yes. Then there is another indefinite thing to come in. We get something from the States—how much I do not know. I have estimated for \$25,000 for cavalry harness and for the batteries. That made a total of \$1,932,600. Now, but of that allotment from that indefinite appropriation and in that emergency that you gave me before, amounting to \$1,376,000, it will leave nearly \$560,000 still required. In consequence of the fact that these troops were coming in and did not have as much equipment as we expected—some of them not having anything—and many of them wanting new equipment, and the fact that the ammunition came in, I have estimated that we ought to have \$460,000, making \$962,000.

That is estimated to provide equipment for the cavalry, artillery, and infantry prior to the last call. For this call of 75,000 more men it would cost \$675,000, but I make it \$600,000, because, perhaps, they will bring a lot with them.

The CHAIRMAN. That is enough?

General FLAGLER. It is not any too much, but I think we can get along with that.

The CHAIRMAN. For repairing and preserving ordnance, etc.?

General FLAGLER. That is one of our regular items, and on account of the large number of troops to take care of it is not enough. I want to increase that a little. I want about five times as much more.

The CHAIRMAN. Did you increase the item on account of the new call?

General FLAGLER. Yes; but that is one of the indefinite things we could not make a close estimate upon, but I think that is enough. It is like the first item.

The CHAIRMAN. The next item is \$10,000 for overhauling, cleaning, etc.

General FLAGLER. That is an item of the same kind.

The CHAIRMAN. You think you will have enough there, including the second call?

General FLAGLER. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. The next is \$207,000 for Winchester rifles. You have a contract for this and they are to be delivered in the first half of the year?

General FLAGLER. That was ordered by the Secretary of War and was requested by General Miles.

The CHAIRMAN. Requested by General Miles?

General FLAGLER. Yes; and the Secretary of War ordered that that purchase should be made. I had no money to pay for it and I had to put it in here.

The CHAIRMAN. When are they to be delivered?

General FLAGLER. They will begin to come in in about seventy-five days—that is, delivery will be commenced.

The CHAIRMAN. This was an order not covered by any allotment from the emergency fund?

General FLAGLER. When he gave the order I supposed it would be paid for out of that fund, and when we put in our estimates they said they had no money with which to pay it. The arms are being manufactured and the Government must pay for them.

The CHAIRMAN. The emergency fund is exhausted?

General FLAGLER. They said there was no more money available and everything was stopped.

The CHAIRMAN. This contract was made under an order of the Secretary of War, and he made it on the request of General Miles?

General FLAGLER. I know General Miles requested it.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Did you need these guns?

General FLAGLER. I do not know of any necessity for them.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Is it too late to countermand the order?

General FLAGLER. The contract is entered into and the Government is liable.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Liable for the whole contract if we should countermand the order?

General FLAGLER. They might bring a suit in the Court of Claims and settle it in that way.

The CHAIRMAN. Were these regulation guns?

General FLAGLER. They were Winchesters.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. I think they are a mighty poor gun.

The CHAIRMAN. Who uses these guns?

General FLAGLER. They would be issued to the Army and some probably to the immunes and some to the Cubans.

The CHAIRMAN. Are you short of guns?

General FLAGLER. I think we will have enough, even counting this second call. The CHAIRMAN. You mean of regulation guns?

General FLAGLER. Yes. I am sometimes a little worried about the different conditions existing in the State troops. They bring arms, and already they are wanting to have new ones issued; but I am sure there will be enough. They have been drawing on me very heavily. They have been issued to the Cubans, and have gone out in different directions, so that they have taken about 55,000 to 60,000 rifles.

The CHAIRMAN. You understood that this contract has been made and these guns will be delivered without reference to whether this appropriation is made or not?

General FLAGLER. The Government is liable.

The CHAIRMAN. And the contract is made?

General FLAGLER. Made, signed, and sealed. They are manufacturing them, and while I am not sure of that, I think that in sixty or ninety days they will commence delivery, and they will deliver them all in about twenty days.

The CHAIRMAN. What do you call the regulation gun now?

General FLAGLER. We have two. We are furnishing to the volunteers the Springfield breech-loading rifle. That has been the arm of this country down to two or three years ago, when we commenced changing and giving the Regular Army the magazine gun, the caliber .30, known as the Krag-Jørgensen. It was decided when the call was made that the volunteers should be uniformly armed with the Springfield .45 caliber.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you enough in stock to arm the 125,000 volunteers?

General FLAGLER. Yes. I do not think any members of this committee have been on the Committee of Military Affairs, but for five or six years I have had a bill before Congress urging that the United States allow the States to turn in all the arms of caliber .45, some of which are worthless and none very good, and that the United States change them for caliber .45, Springfield rifle. That bill was passed, and last summer the change was made, and the .45 caliber Springfield arm was issued and the others called in. I suppose that one-half of the troops from the States have already been so armed and the old guns turned in. All we had to do was to furnish them, and that is being done.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, is it contemplated that this new set of volunteers will be armed with the Springfields?

General FLAGLER. In the same way.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, the Regular Army is to be armed with—

General FLAGLER. Caliber .30 magazine rifles?

The CHAIRMAN. Have you enough of those?

General FLAGLER. Yes, and we are making them at the rate of 280 per day at the armory.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you enough on hand, and are you manufacturing them fast enough to arm the Regular Army as fast as enlistments take place?

General FLAGLER. Yes, and more than that.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, that brings me to another question. The immune regiments were to be 10,000. How are they to be armed?

General FLAGLER. I recommended that they be allowed their choice. I think we have received requisitions from three, and two of them have taken the .45-caliber Springfield, and the other has taken the magazine gun.

The CHAIRMAN. Is it practical with the stock on hand of caliber .30 magazine guns and caliber .45 Springfield guns, in addition to arming the Regular Army, 125,000, to arm the 75,000 volunteers as fast as enlisted?

General FLAGLER. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. And you have made contracts?

General FLAGLER. We have arms being turned out fast enough to do that.

The CHAIRMAN. Then that leaves 20,000 Winchesters to be kept in stock or issued to the Cubans?

General FLAGLER. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. Are they as good an arm as the caliber .30?

General FLAGLER. Personally I do not think so.

The CHAIRMAN. Are they as good as the caliber .45?

General FLAGLER. I do not think they are, but others think they are better. It is a difference of opinion between doctors.

The CHAIRMAN. You do not allow people to choose the arms they want?

General FLAGLER. No.

The CHAIRMAN. That is done by the head of the service?

General FLAGLER. It is generally under the direction of the Secretary of War.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. The Secretary of War can not order the kind of guns that would be used.

General FLAGLER. You will find that it is generally under the Chief of Ordnance, and the Chief of Ordnance is under the Secretary of War.

Mr. NORTHWAY. How many stands of arms have you?

General FLAGLER. We have enough to take care of the second call.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. What is the caliber of the Winchester?

General FLAGLER. It is caliber .30.

The CHAIRMAN. Touching this contract for the Winchesters, was it made upon allotment from the emergency fund, or will we have to ask the Secretary about it?

General FLAGLER. I understood that when the purchase of those guns was urged and it was decided to order them, that the money was to come from that emergency fund, but in a day or two, when these estimates went to the Secretary for the money, it was found that there was not enough money and we could not get any more. We had no other course to pursue except to put it in here, but I understand that that contract is being fulfilled and the Government has got to pay for them.

The CHAIRMAN. Manufacturing, repairing, procuring, and issuing arms at the national armories, \$640,000. That is the increase that we have been talking about in part.

General FLAGLER. Exactly. The appropriation for the Army has been regularly, for a great many years, \$400,000 per year. In consequence of this demand, delivery has been increased from 80 to 280 per day, and this additional estimate is to enable us to carry on that work.

The CHAIRMAN. That is \$640,000, and I will ask you whether this new call for 75,000 troops, with those heretofore made and allotted, will take care of this 75,000 troops in addition.

General FLAGLER. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. Then you will not submit any other estimate for that?

General FLAGLER. There will be nothing more for that. We will be able to take care of that.

The CHAIRMAN. In other words, so far as the Ordnance Office is concerned, with what you have on hand and what has been heretofore appropriated and allotted, which is estimated for now in these estimates to which your attention is called, you think it will take care of all the Army and the 75,000 troops under the new call for volunteers for the first half of the coming fiscal year?

General FLAGLER. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Will you have anything left in the shape of arms if you care for all of them?

General FLAGLER. Yes; we will have some left.

The CHAIRMAN. How many, in your judgment?

General FLAGLER. That depends upon how much arms the State troops bring with them which will prove to be serviceable, so that we may not have to condemn them and turn them in. But we will have enough to condemn about two-thirds of them and let them be turned in.

The CHAIRMAN. You hardly will condemn that many?

General FLAGLER. I do not think we will condemn over one-third.

The CHAIRMAN. Under the head of armament of fortifications, for coast-defense guns of 8, 10, and 12 inch you ask for \$130,510.

General FLAGLER. Yes, sir. But there is a mistake, by reason of a clerical error in the estimates, and it should be \$137,098.

The CHAIRMAN. The Chief of Engineers says that he wants \$2,562,000 to implace certain guns that he intends to add, bought from the emergency fund. What do you know about that?

General FLAGLER. They have been urging on the Ordnance Department the necessity for these rapid-firing guns all along. We did not have any rapid-fire guns till about a year ago, and when the war came on the necessity for rapid-fire guns was very great and they were urged very strenuously upon us. We have been getting all we can, keeping all the time within the amount that we could procure that were required for the fortifications. I had a statement of the total number of guns required for the fortifications.

The CHAIRMAN. These guns the Chief Engineer wants to implace were guns which were bought from the emergency fund of \$50,000,000?

General FLAGLER. Most of them were. Some were in the fortification bill, and I think we had an item in the last army deficiency bill, but I do not know. Most of them came out of the emergency fund.

The CHAIRMAN. But he did not get anything out of the emergency fund to implace these guns?

General FLAGLER. No.

The CHAIRMAN. He comes to us and says that it takes \$2,562,000 to implace them. I asked him the question why he did not use the appropriation in the fortification bill for emplacement and he said that those were made for emplacements for other guns, and that no appropriation had been allotted or made to emplace these guns. When will these guns be ready for emplacement; this year?

General FLAGLER. Some are already received and others are coming in. Most of them will be in in much less than a year. Some of the contracts may take a year, but not much more.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there anything else you desire to say?

General FLAGLER. There are some items in addition to the item sent in May 21. One item was for telescopic sights for cannon, \$25,000. There have been purchased 300 such rapid-fire guns, for which no appropriations for telescopic sights have been made. The next item is \$150,000 for powder and explosives for cannon. It requires a certain kind of powder according to the specifications. In the consideration of the matter by Congress it has been determined to take all the old 15-inch guns and the old 8-inch convertible muzzle-loading rifles and put them up on improvised emplacements on the coasts and mount them. They will require a special kind of black powder and the appropriation does not specify it. It is for our regular armament, and I would need to provide for that powder. I have got the guns, carriages, etc., but not the powder.

The CHAIRMAN. I suppose those old guns were to be set up for the moral effect upon the inhabitants.

General FLAGLER. Yes; but they are not so poor a gun as you might think. They are a very good gun—15-inch gun with improved carriages and 8-inch muzzle-loading rifles mounted on improved disappearing carriages.

The CHAIRMAN. How much do they want for them?

General FLAGLER. One hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

The CHAIRMAN. Anything else?

General FLAGLER. You have had estimates for fortifications, for inspecting the instruments, for carriages, etc., if you remember, originally running about \$10,000, and which was reduced to \$5,000 and finally to \$3,000. In consequence of the greatly increased contracts and the necessity for having inspectors, I can not provide now for that work, and \$5,000 is not enough.

There is a matter which has come in within the last few days, and I am aware it is a question of more money, but I presume the committee will receive something on the subject, and I think I had better speak to you of it. The requisitions from the engineer for mortars have been much greater than the Department could supply. I think this year that when I made up our estimates they wanted more than twice as many as I could furnish. I made an estimate for the most that I could furnish, and they reduced their estimates accordingly. In the last year or two we have found some establishments that could manufacture mortars, but our output was still limited by the number of forgings. Now the Builders' Iron Works, of Providence, R. I., have put in a fair proposition at regular prices to furnish eighty or more of those mortars.

The CHAIRMAN. They propose to furnish eighty or more?

General FLAGLER. They would furnish any number that they could get orders for, but they could not furnish them any faster, because the steel companies could not make more forgings. The mortar work is far behind and the engineers want them very much. We could not now get more than are in the fortification bill if we had the money.

The CHAIRMAN. Why?

General FLAGLER. I did not bring up the letter in reference to it. I do not know when the first mortar was to be delivered, but certainly inside of six months. I know that to deliver 80 would require four hundred days, and my estimate was for 32, and that we would get them in about ten months. We estimate by multiples of 16, which is the number required for a battery, and the cost of the mortar is \$11,500, and the carriage makes it \$17,500.

The CHAIRMAN. In the regular fortification bill you have an appropriation for mortars?

General FLAGLER. Yes; I have never asked a cent, because the amount in the appropriation bill was a little over our capacity.

The CHAIRMAN. You have not got them then?

General FLAGLER. Our capacity is increased.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you think they can make forgings as well as mortars?

General FLAGLER. Yes; there is another firm making them.

The CHAIRMAN. But after all, these mortars that you are now talking about, should you make an item supplemental and additional to the fortification bill, will practically not materialize within twelve months.

General FLAGLER. No.

The CHAIRMAN. Then that does not fight the war?

General FLAGLER. Yes; but that you might not go away with the wrong notion, I want to state that the mortar portion of the coast defense is several years behind the gun work. If there is any way to crowd it as an adjunct to the gun fortification it will add greatly to the coast defense. This matter only came before me yesterday or the day before.

The CHAIRMAN. That is a matter that pertains to the Endicott coast-defense scheme. It could not be called a measure for the present war with Spain. In other words, if we are to be bombarded, the bombardment will take place inside of a year?

General FLAGLER. Yes. There was an item for artillery ammunition which I do not find here. This additional estimate has been overlooked. It is for field and siege artillery ammunition. When we commenced I told you that there were certain items in this additional estimate, and we think it is very necessary.

The CHAIRMAN. It is in your estimate that has been forwarded and not yet received?

General FLAGLER. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. How much is it?

General FLAGLER. \$555,000.

The CHAIRMAN. And that is necessary?

General FLAGLER. It is very important.

General Flagler submitted the following memorandum of estimates for which he desired consideration:

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATE, MAY 25.

Notes on items in letter of May 21, 1898, containing estimates in addition to those made May 14, 1898.

For providing and procuring infantry equipments, cavalry equipments, horse equipments, and artillery harness..... \$600,000

To be added to the item of \$962,625 for the same purpose in the estimate.

For providing and procuring small-arm cartridges for infantry and cavalry. 2,600,000

NOTE.—This is the amount that will be required in addition to all appropriations available, and in addition to the \$1,640,000 already estimated for in the above-mentioned estimate, to provide for 1,000 cartridges per man, and is, in my judgment, the least amount that prudence demands should be provided for.

To be added to the item of \$1,640,000 for the same purpose in the estimate

For providing and procuring field and siege artillery ammunition of all kinds..... 555,000

For telescopic sights for cannon..... 25,000

NOTE.—The Department has on hand or under manufacture some 300 rapid-fire and siege guns that will require telescopic sights. The estimate is for about 150 sights, which are required for immediate wants.

For powder and explosives for cannon..... 150,000

NOTE.—To provide powders for cannon of the old seacoast armament, and explosives for filling shell.

For inspecting instruments for cannon, projectiles, and carriages..... 5,000

NOTE.—The placing of a large number of contracts for ordnance material necessitates the procurement of an increased supply of inspecting instruments for which the present available appropriations are not deemed sufficient. The above estimate is to provide necessary funds for procuring inspecting instruments.

Armament of fortifications:

For coast-defense guns of 8, 10, and 12 inch caliber, manufactured by contract under the provisions of the fortification acts approved Aug. 18, 1890, and Feb. 24, 1891.....

For this amount substitute..... 130,510

NOTE.—The original amount was an error; certain changes which have been authorized since the commencement of manufacture have increased the price somewhat, which had been overlooked and not included in the estimate when first submitted, but this is now the sum required to meet the payments due.

Including this estimate, the money appropriated will procure twenty-five 8-inch, thirty 10-inch, four 12-inch.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

STATEMENT OF GEN. M. I. LUDINGTON, QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL.

The CHAIRMAN. Page 10, first item is for regular supplies. The appropriation for 1898 was \$2,000,000. You have had a deficiency of \$1,000,000, and you have sent a supplemental deficiency estimate for \$1,000,000. I am speaking now of the deficiency.

General LUDINGTON. That is right, according to our figures. We figured up what the horses will cost, the stationery, fuel, and so on, and we made it \$746,368. But we put the amount in at \$1,000,000, so as to be sure that we would have enough.

The CHAIRMAN. You have, then, \$250,000 to play on?

General LUDINGTON. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. Then I will ask you whether a new call of 75,000 troops has caused you to submit an increased estimate.

General LUDINGTON. Not yet.

The CHAIRMAN. I think you had better send your estimate up on Monday for that 75,000 additional troops.

General LUDINGTON. It is difficult to estimate that, because we do not know how much is to be cavalry and how much is to be infantry. If it is all to be infantry we do not want much grain, but if it is all cavalry and artillery we will want grain; but we will make an estimate of it.

The CHAIRMAN. Do the best you can about them.

General LUDINGTON. Yes. We have to deal in generalities, more or less, about this matter.

The CHAIRMAN. This whole estimate of yours so far does not take into account the new call.

General LUDINGTON. No, sir. It was made and sent in before that call was made. This \$1,000,000 is the amount fixed for the balance of this fiscal year.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you think you have any margin on this estimate of \$6,000,000 for the first six months of next year?

General LUDINGTON. The exact amount is \$5,478,163.

The CHAIRMAN. And you put it at \$6,000,000, so as to give you enough?

General LUDINGTON. Yes; so as to have plenty. I regard this estimate as liberal. I do not pretend to say that we have not put on enough.

The CHAIRMAN. When Congress goes away we do not want you to get out of money.

General LUDINGTON. Exactly; but if we do not need it we will not use it.

The CHAIRMAN. We do not want to appropriate enough and half as much more than is necessary, taking into consideration this whole thing—operations in the Philippines, Cuba, and Puerto Rico.

General LUDINGTON. It is enough, so far as I can estimate it. As to Puerto Rico, I do not know about that.

The CHAIRMAN. Incidental expenses, etc. What was the exact amount you figured for that for the half year?

General LUDINGTON. \$2,100,000.

The CHAIRMAN. You send a supplemental estimate for a deficiency of \$200,000 for 1898. What is your exact deficiency as a fact?

General LUDINGTON. \$200,000. We ought to have asked for \$250,000. The expenses are very heavy now for telegraphic communication.

The CHAIRMAN. You revised this estimate yourself and ask for \$250,000. You think it will take that much to cover it?

General LUDINGTON. I think it would be safer.

The CHAIRMAN. We have got the service and we want to pay for it. We do not want to make them wait.

General LUDINGTON. That is it, exactly.

The CHAIRMAN. In the next item, for horses, you estimate \$2,000,000 for the first six months of next year. What is the exact amount you have there?

General LUDINGTON. We went into the subject pretty carefully and we make it \$1,447,500. Of course, in that amount we have figured for remounts of horses lost during the war.

The CHAIRMAN. You have \$550,000 to play on?

General LUDINGTON. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. You sent supplemental estimates for 1898 for \$1,000,000. The appropriation for 1898 was \$130,000 and the amount already appropriated as a deficiency was \$1,500,000, and your supplemental estimate is \$1,000,000 more.

General LUDINGTON. We figure on \$878,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you think that will cover it?

General LUDINGTON. That is our estimate.

The CHAIRMAN. You make an estimate of \$1,000,000?

General LUDINGTON. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. Should you think really that \$378,000 will cover it?

General LUDINGTON. We think it is safer to make it \$1,000,000.

The CHAIRMAN. For barracks and quarters for 1898 you send an additional estimate of \$200,000. What is the amount there that you figure?

General LUDINGTON. It is largely estimated. We have to do so because we can not tell the expenses of campaigns, the rental of buildings, etc.

The CHAIRMAN. This is for June, and you want the \$200,000 to stand?

General LUDINGTON. All these people came into the service and we had to make allowances for them.

The CHAIRMAN. For the next six months it is \$750,000. Do you give some leeway there?

General LUDINGTON. We made this same estimate.

The CHAIRMAN. You can not estimate that as closely as the other item?

General LUDINGTON. We can not estimate it at all.

The CHAIRMAN. You are satisfied this is enough in an active campaign?

General LUDINGTON. I think so.

The CHAIRMAN. Including Cuba, Puerto Rico, and so on?

General LUDINGTON. Yes. Of course, what may have to be done in Manila and Puerto Rico in the way of building houses I can not tell.

The CHAIRMAN. For transportation you send a supplemental deficiency estimate for \$9,000,000. Do you give any leeway there? I am speaking of the \$20,000,000 for the first six months of the next fiscal year.

General LUDINGTON. We have estimated for \$17,822,760. That is the estimate of what will be required. Of course, it is largely due to the hire of vessels now under contract.

The CHAIRMAN. That estimate covers the Philippines and what you contemplate you will have to do in Puerto Rico, etc., and your idea is it will be about \$20,000,000.

General LUDINGTON. Just about. We figured it up at about \$18,000,000, and added \$2,000,000 to it for contingencies. Of course, I do not know how many vessels we will have to hire.

The CHAIRMAN. My object in this examination is to see how closely you figured it and how large leeway you allowed. I think you need leeway, and I wanted to see how much you were giving.

General LUDINGTON. Yes; but just think of the expenses now. We have got 29 vessels in the Atlantic Ocean, at an expense of \$25,000 per day, and vessels in the Pacific Ocean costing \$5,000 per day. Then there is the item of fuel. We supply coal.

The CHAIRMAN. For instance, Congress is going to adjourn and the object of this examination is to see how much you need. You estimate that it is going to take so much, and you put in nearly \$3,000,000 more. I think you ought to. I want to feel safe when we start in that you have got enough money to play on.

General LUDINGTON. You understand that we have to estimate this.

Mr. NORTHWAY. Does the price of these vessels include the establishment to run them?

General LUDINGTON. Yes; the crews.

The CHAIRMAN. Here is clothing, camp and garrison equipment, \$13,000,000, for the first six months. What is your real figure?

General LUDINGTON. \$13,090,000. We called it even.

The CHAIRMAN. You have got no deficiency in clothing. You had \$10,000,000. Will you have something left over?

General LUDINGTON. I think so.

The CHAIRMAN. How much?

General LUDINGTON. I can not state, because we are outfitting people on the Pacific Coast.

The CHAIRMAN. The chances are that you will have something left over from that \$10,000,000?

General LUDINGTON. I think so. I think we are fairly safe.

The CHAIRMAN. For contingent expenses you ask \$50,000.

General LUDINGTON. That is in the Office of the Secretary of War. We put it in at his request.

The CHAIRMAN. How long will it take you to make an approximate estimate of this 75,000 increase of troops?

General LUDINGTON. I should think we could get it up by Monday. We are very much in the dark, on account of not knowing how the force is to be constituted. If it is cavalry, we will want more for horses and forage.

The CHAIRMAN. You have not much use for cavalry, have you?

General LUDINGTON. I do not see much use for it.

The CHAIRMAN. But you want some, of course.

General LUDINGTON. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. I can see the difficulty until the designation is made by the President, but it seems to me that you ought to confer with the Secretary of War and ascertain how that call is going to be made up. If you knew how much cavalry and how much infantry was to be designated, you would know how much to estimate for. We want to put it in the bill.

General LUDINGTON. We will make an estimate and make it big enough to be on the safe side.

The CHAIRMAN. Suppose you get it up, if you can, by Monday. Of course, the Secretary of War ought to be called upon, so as to inform you as to what portion of the troops are going to be infantry and what portion cavalry.

Mr. NORTHWAY. I suppose it will be proportioned like the 125,000 troops. It will simply be proportionate.

General LUDINGTON. Yes; we will get it up for you.

MONDAY, June 6, 1898.

INTERNAL REVENUE.

STATEMENT OF MR. G. W. WILSON, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE.

The CHAIRMAN. You are Deputy Commissioner of Internal Revenue?

Mr. WILSON. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. How long have you been in service as Deputy Commissioner?

Mr. WILSON. Nine years in April.

The CHAIRMAN. You have been continuously—

Mr. WILSON. Almost continuously in the service since 1869.

The CHAIRMAN. But you have been holding your present place for nine years?

Mr. WILSON. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. I will get you state, if you know, in a general way touching the proposed legislation for an increase of collection of internal revenue now pending?

Mr. WILSON. Yes, sir; I tried to advise myself.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, on the theory that the legislation will be enacted shortly, between this and the next week or two, and that it will be so enacted so that the internal-revenue receipts will be increased by not less than \$100,000,000 to \$150,000,000, I want to ask you your best estimate of the amount necessary to pay for such increased collections?

Mr. WILSON. For the fiscal year?

The CHAIRMAN. For the fiscal year.

Mr. WILSON. It ought not to be less than \$500,000, and I think that we are more apt to have a deficiency than something to turn back out of that sum.

The CHAIRMAN. I will ask you what it costs now under existing law to collect—how many million dollars of internal revenue?

Mr. WILSON. Our aggregate appropriation now is about \$3,800,000.

The CHAIRMAN. About \$3,800,000 is what the service now costs?

Mr. WILSON. Yes, sir; in the aggregate.

The CHAIRMAN. And you collect over \$150,000,000?

Mr. WILSON. From \$146,000,000 to \$165,000,000. We will go to \$165,000,000 this year.

The CHAIRMAN. State, in that connection, whether you have any unnecessary force now.

Mr. WILSON. No, sir; we have at certain seasons of the year, but covering the whole year we have not. It takes them every one.

The CHAIRMAN. Now you suggest, then, that if this law is enacted as I have indicated it will take at least \$500,000 for the coming fiscal year to pay the increased expenses of collection?

Mr. WILSON. Yes, sir, certain; and I want to go on record that that is a modest estimate.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, I want to ask you another question. Is it practical for you to detail with a fair degree of accuracy the employees—how many clerks, how many deputy collectors, how many agents, etc.—so as to get the proper proportion?

Mr. WILSON. No, sir; I think this appropriation should be made and the number of employees left open in order that the Commissioner of Internal Revenue may for the time being make his increase of force and expend this money. This emergency is upon us. We are trying to-day in the office to anticipate as far as we can in order to relieve the pressure right there now. The express companies are there now clamoring to know when they will have these stamps, and the beer people and the tobacco people also.

The CHAIRMAN. I will ask you in that connection whether from a practical standpoint of the present emergency if you had plenary power to choose them from day to day as the service demanded, to select them by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, whether that would be more speedy than it would, even if it were possible to detail them, to get them through the civil-service machinery?

Mr. WILSON. That is certainly so in reference to the field force, because there is the opportunity to get experienced men.

The CHAIRMAN. Now suppose this law was to go into effect now, and you were to have a lump sum for the employment of the Internal-Revenue Service, say of half a million dollars, is it probable by the time you come to consider the matter of appropriations, if the law should not be changed, that during the next winter, or the next session of Congress, you could give a better estimate as to what would be necessary?

Mr. WILSON. Yes, sir; by the time you make another appropriation this whole thing, if it lasts beyond that, would be adjusted just as the machinery is now, and these things can be as definitely stated as to the necessity as the present condition of things is estimated for and provided for in an accurate way.

The CHAIRMAN. Can you make a suggestion from that standpoint of providing a lump sum as to the language, as to the clause?

Mr. WILSON. I have an outline of a bill here.

The CHAIRMAN. Suppose you read it.

Mr. WILSON (reading).

"Be it enacted, That the sum of five hundred thousand dollars be and is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to provide for such additional force in the Internal-Revenue Service as, in the judgment of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, may be necessary to carry into effect legislation for increasing the internal revenues; the office force in the Internal-Revenue Bureau to be appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury, on the recommendation of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue; and internal-revenue agents and deputy collectors of internal revenue paid from this appropriation shall be selected and appointed, respectively, under the provisions of section 3152 and section 3148 of the Revised Statutes."

This is framed in language just like similar bills which have been passed, with the exception of the latter part of it.

The CHAIRMAN. Now these sections—I will see if I am right in my understanding of what they are—one of them authorizes the Commissioner of Internal Revenue to appoint revenue agents and the other authorizes the collectors of internal revenue to appoint their own deputies. That is it in substance?

Mr. WILSON. Yes, sir; that is the existing law.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, from your knowledge of the public service and in your judgment would that language enable the Secretary of the Treasury, on the recommendation of the Commissioner and the Commissioner and collectors of Internal Revenue to appoint these employees without reference to the civil service?

Mr. WILSON. I think it would; yes, sir.

Mr. NORTHWAY. These same sections to which you refer are still in force?

Mr. WILSON. They are existing law.

Mr. NORTHWAY. But by virtue of some other law all appointments under those are carried under the civil service law?

Mr. WILSON. Under law and regulations predicated on the civil-service law the deputies were classified to the embarrassment of the service.

Mr. NORTHWAY. Why would not they, with this same language, be carried under the civil-service law?

Mr. WILSON. Because the word "selected" is in there and will, I think, end any contention about the matter.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Had not you better make that doubly sure. That word "selected" does not mean necessarily—

The CHAIRMAN. He has in there "selected and appointed."

Mr. WILSON. Yes; selected and appointed.

Mr. BARNEY (to Mr. Livingston). How would you do that—put in the word "appointed?"

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Yes.

Mr. WILSON. I think the word "selected" in there makes that statute strong enough—that is, I do not think there will be any contention about it. I think the President will in the next few days eliminate that question anyway.

Mr. NORTHWAY. You think in a few days. It has been going on for a long time?

Mr. WILSON. They have made such progress that in my mind it will be done, I am satisfied.

The CHAIRMAN. However that may be, I am of the impression—I want to be frank here and on the floor of the House—I do not see how it is possible in the present condition for anybody to detail a force and provide for it or for it to be selected

practically under the civil service act. I think in twelve months from now, or ten or eight months from now, with experience—

Mr. BARNEY. Under that provision you have requested do you think it will eliminate all these extra officers from the civil service?

Mr. WILSON. Under this appropriation. When that ends that will be a different thing.

The CHAIRMAN. We could not undertake to change the law; that would be subject to a point of order.

Mr. BARNEY. It seems to me that provision might act as a limitation upon this appropriation.

Mr. NORTHWAY. This would not conflict with the old force in any form, as I understand?

Mr. BARNEY. Do you anticipate there will be an increase in the clerical force of the collectors as well as their deputies?

Mr. WILSON. Yes, sir—well, we have very few clerks, and it is a sort of nondescript position anyway. Congress has never provided for the appointment of such persons by law. They only provide for the appointment of deputies to the collector. We have but very few of them anyway. There are about 156 or 160 of them throughout the country.

Mr. NORTHWAY. That is deputies?

Mr. WILSON. What we call clerks.

Mr. BARNEY. Then the deputies act as clerks?

Mr. WILSON. We found it embarrassing. A man stands at a desk as a clerk and he is not qualified to administer an oath on a return that comes in, and he has to step away and call the deputy in, so that we found that by making them deputies they meet all emergencies and wants and did not interfere with their official capacity at all. He is acting as a clerk and he is called a deputy.

Mr. NORTHWAY. Practically the force in a collector's office is known as deputies?

Mr. WILSON. Yes, sir.

Mr. BARNEY. Some are field deputies and some are in the office?

Mr. WILSON. Yes, sir; they are all deputies.

TUESDAY, June 7, 1898.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

RECORDING CLOCKS.

STATEMENT OF MR. W. H. HILLS, SECRETARY'S OFFICE, TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

The CHAIRMAN. I want to ask you a question first touching the contingent item for the purchase of books, etc., where you submit an estimate of \$3,000.

Mr. HILLS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. You had \$7,000, which seems to have been the amount heretofore?

Mr. HILLS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there an actual deficiency there?

Mr. HILLS. No, sir; we have not incurred any expenditure beyond the amount of \$7,000, but there are some matters pending which should receive immediate consideration, in the opinion of the Department.

The CHAIRMAN. Of what nature?

Mr. HILLS. Well, the Secretary has introduced into the building these time-recording clocks on trial, and he is of the opinion they should be purchased.

The CHAIRMAN. Could we get rid of them by refusing to appropriate this \$3,000?

Mr. HILLS. I question very much whether that will accomplish it. They probably will be purchased next year out of the contingent appropriation for furniture.

The CHAIRMAN. That practically covers the time clocks?

Mr. HILLS. \$1,800 of it does.

The CHAIRMAN. What is the balance for?

Mr. HILLS. For typewriters and typewriting cabinets.

The CHAIRMAN. Are they badly needed?

Mr. HILLS. They are very badly needed, sir. We have requisitions now, and have had them pending covering 12 machines and—

The CHAIRMAN. You really need them?

Mr. HILLS. They are very much needed in fact.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, if we were to appropriate \$1,200, would it be used for typewriters?

Mr. HILLS. I could not answer that question unless it was specifically made for typewriting machines and typewriting cabinets.

The CHAIRMAN. If there is nothing appropriated for typewriters or anything else, you go over to the 1st of July?

Mr. HILLS. Necessarily so.

The CHAIRMAN. I think we understand that item now.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. How came these time clocks to be introduced into the Treasury Department?

Mr. HILLS. They are merely experimental; they have not been purchased.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Yes. But how came they to be introduced there—at whose request?

Mr. HILLS. The Secretary directed them to be introduced; he directed the chief clerk to have them introduced.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. It is very disgusting and distasteful to all your clerks to have those clocks in there, is it not?

Mr. HILLS. I presume to the masses.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Can not you keep time without them as well as with them?

Mr. HILLS. I will state I was very much opposed personally to the introduction of the clocks, but I must admit I think they have been conducive to more punctual attendance and more regular attendance. They record every moment a clerk or employee is absent from the building, whether a half a day or a minute, and the time so recorded is charged against his annual leave of absence—that is, other than the time for lunch.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. This is the only department which has them?

Mr. HILLS. The only department, I believe, that has them.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. You understand if the Secretary of the Treasury gets them the other departments will probably all want them. In other words, is not somebody interested in that clock business, pushing its introduction?

Mr. HILLS. Not to my knowledge.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Do you suspect it to be true?

Mr. HILLS. No, sir; I have no suspicion of that character.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Is there any one in the Treasury Department interested in those clocks?

Mr. HILLS. Not that I know of.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Have you looked into that matter?

Mr. HILLS. No, sir; I never found it necessary. I merely acted under instructions of the Secretary, and further than that I know nothing about it.

Mr. NORTHWAY. What do the clocks cost apiece?

Mr. HILLS. \$100.

Mr. NORTHWAY. For each of the clerks' rooms?

Mr. HILLS. No, sir; there are only eighteen clocks in the whole Department; one clock will record the time of 200 employees.

The CHAIRMAN. I suppose Mr. Vanderlip really has more knowledge about the policy than anybody else other than the Secretary?

Mr. HILLS. Yes, sir; undoubtedly.

The CHAIRMAN. But any knowledge you have we will be glad to have.

Mr. HILLS. All I know about the matter is simply this: I received an official communication signed by the chief clerk directing that the clocks be placed in the building by order of Secretary Vanderlip for trial. They were placed in the building there on trial and they are now recording the time of the employees, their arrival and departure through the day, whether it be for lunch or for other purposes, and, as I stated before, all the time not covered by the regulations of the Department is charged to the annual leave of the employees.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. I want to ask a question right there. The other day a messenger was sent out of your Department on official business. He went out and the time was registered, a few minutes, against him. How is he going to get credit for that? He did not get credit for it. I know he did not get it, but how is he going to get credit for it? The clock registered against him and he went out at the request of one of his chiefs on official business, and of course he was registered. Now, how can he get credit for that?

Mr. HILLS. The cards of the several clocks are handed to certain designated officials to make up the time, and where an employee has lost time on official business it is so stated on the card and is sent to the head of the office, and that is not entered against his annual leave. It answers as an excuse.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Then these clocks entail a whole lot of bookkeeping on the Department?

Mr. HILLS. I thought they were going to, but I admit it does not involve as much bookkeeping as I thought they would.

The CHAIRMAN. Ask him how much force it takes to run these time clocks, if he knows.

Mr. HILLS. Take the clock which records the people of my office. In addition to my office I think there are three other offices, but I could only speak of my own office. I have a man there who makes up his report once a week. These cards are taken up weekly. They come to him, and it may take him two hours probably to make out his report to the appointment division. I do not think it takes him longer than that, and that is entered in the books against the annual leave of the clerk.

The CHAIRMAN. Does it take as much time there as it does your man?

Mr. HILLS. I do not think it takes any more time than under the old system, because under the old system whenever the employees lost any time between 9 and 4 not covered by official business or lunch it was supposed to be charged to the annual leave, so the results there are about the same, but I think now there is a more accurate accounting of the time of the clerks by reason of these clocks than under the old system.

Mr. SAYERS. What is the length of time each employee is required to labor during the day?

Mr. HILLS. They are supposed to work from 9 to 12, half an hour for lunch, and from half past twelve until 4, although he may take his half hour for lunch anytime between 12 and 1. He is not restricted to the half hour between 12 and half past but he is restricted to the hour between 12 and 1.

Mr. SAYERS. He is required to do six and one-half hours' work in a day?

Mr. HILLS. Yes.

Mr. NORTHWAY. I did not understand the statement about the two hours' time it takes the clerk; is that every day?

Mr. HILLS. No; once a week.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Who keeps the register from the clock and puts it on the ticket?

Mr. HILLS. That works automatically. In other words, when I come in in the morning I go to the clock and take my card out of a rack and put it in a slot and pull down a handle and that records my arrival, and then I put it in another rack. These racks are marked, one "in" and the other "out." When I come in the morning I take the card in the "in" rack and put it in the slot and touch the lever. I then put it in the other rack, where it remains until I leave the building, whether it be for luncheon, official business, or in the afternoon finally.

Mr. SAYERS. Is every employee required of himself to put upon record the time of his arrival and the time of his departure?

Mr. HILLS. Yes, sir.

Mr. SAYERS. Whenever he leaves the room?

Mr. HILLS. Every employee in the building other than those appointed by the President.

Mr. NORTHWAY. So the only way the Department knows is what he does himself?

Mr. HILLS. Of course he has previously gotten permission from the head of the office. He must get that in the first place.

Mr. NORTHWAY. Why could not you trust the clerk with the card and let him put it down himself; trust it to his honor?

Mr. HILLS. That is a question of policy again.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Why not keep the time of the clerks, say at the door?

Mr. HILLS. That was practiced for a good many years.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. It is just as correct, is it not, especially if there is a messenger sitting there to watch the clerks to see that the clerks register.

Mr. HILLS. That was the practice for a good many years; but I think in some offices it is not observed strictly.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Where is this clock manufactured and who makes it?

Mr. HILLS. It is manufactured by the Rochester Recording Clock Company of Rochester, N. Y. I have no reason in the world to believe there is anything back of this—any deal, or anything of the sort. I think the purchase was a straightforward and legitimate transaction. Of course you can hear all sorts of rumors and of course there is a strong prejudice with the employees against the clock.

Mr. NORTHWAY. Suppose a clerk goes out and fails to record his card, somebody has to observe. Would not the same thing take place if there was a card on his desk?

Mr. HILLS. There is nobody watching these clocks at all; but the discovery might be made accidentally. There is liable to be a discovery, and that is one reason the clerks and employees generally are very careful to observe the regulations in regard to using the clocks. They know they will be held amenable and pretty severely disciplined.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. You admit that the clerks there are honorable clerks—I do not know that you have any dishonorable—and they feel this way about it: "Before this we kept our time and entered the name, and now we are supposed to be dishonest, and this clock is evidence that in the Assistant Secretary's mind we are a lot of dis-

honest clerks. He is not willing to trust us at all here, and we feel humiliated." They feel that way.

Mr. HILLS. I have heard expressions of that kind.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. I have got nobody in there affected by it and consequently I can talk about it.

Mr. HILLS. Yes, sir.

Mr. BARNEY. Is this clock of recent patent?

Mr. HILLS. I think it is comparatively so. There have been clocks of this character on the market for the last several years. I know they used them in post-offices in connection with postal clerks; principally letter carriers.

Mr. BARNEY. You do not know of any agent of that institution in this city?

Mr. HILLS. I do not know. There are some half a dozen similar devices on the market. There are some half a dozen in competition here I think; probably four at least.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. And out of the four you have selected the Rochester clock?

Mr. HILLS. Yes; it was selected. I had nothing to do with it.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. I know you did not, but I spoke of the Department.

Mr. HILLS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Ordinarily a clerk comes in at 9 o'clock and he registers through the clock, and then he goes out to lunch at 12 o'clock and he registers "out." Then he comes in and registers "in," and then goes out when he leaves the building for the day and registers "out;" and so on the average there are practically four registers for each clerk, and may be more if he is sent out on any order?

Mr. HILLS. Yes, sir; but you see there is no record kept of a card that is perfect. A man who comes in at 9 and goes out at 12 and comes in at half past 12 and does not leave the building until 4, that would be termed a perfect card and there is no record made of that. We merely make a record of cards indicating an absence in excess of the time allowed by the regulation of the Department.

The CHAIRMAN. And in point of practice the average clerk is without a record.

Mr. HILLS. All the time lost in the Department between the hours of 9 and 4 under the regulations, except the time lost for luncheon and official business, is supposed to be charged to the annual leave.

The CHAIRMAN. But generally most of the clerks have no records because they put in the requisite time?

Mr. HILLS. Yes, sir.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Suppose a clerk comes in and begins work 10 minutes before 9 o'clock and works until 12 and takes a luncheon for thirty minutes and works until 4. That clerk has worked ten minutes overtime; does he get any credit?

Mr. HILLS. He gets no credit.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Suppose that same clerk for some cause came in five minutes late and enters it and works the same hours, he is charged with five minutes but he gets no credit if he works for the ten minutes overtime.

Mr. HILLS. That five minutes is charged against his annual leave.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. And no credit for the other?

Mr. HILLS. No, sir.

Mr. NORTHWAY. That is true if he came in thirty minutes before time in the morning and was absent for only one minute in the day?

Mr. HILLS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. For instance, you have eighteen clocks. Now, how many employees have you in the Treasury Department?

Mr. HILLS. We have in that building, I think, about 1,800—possibly 2,000. Then in the Winder Building we have between 300 and 400, and then there is the Sixth Auditor's Office, where they have somewhere about 500, as I remember it.

The CHAIRMAN. It is in the neighborhood of 3,000?

Mr. HILLS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. This clock system is running all the time; it does not stop at 9 o'clock, and that is the time they are required to be there?

Mr. HILLS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Unless they register before 9 o'clock how could 100 men all touch a button at once, or can that be done.

Mr. HILLS. Since the clock has been in operation the people have made it a point of getting there and allowing a limit of nearly five minutes. A great many clerks can register in five minutes, probably 150 clerks. It is simply taking the card out of the rack and dropping it in a slot and touching a lever and taking the card up and going along.

Mr. NORTHWAY. I understand that a clock is not in every room, and the clerks have to go to the clocks; how far do they have to go?

Mr. HILLS. Some halfway across the building.

Mr. NORTHWAY. And if he is out one minute it would take two minutes to register?

Mr. HILLS. Yes, sir.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Since the introduction of these clocks has the amount of work been increased by the clerks?

Mr. HILLS. Well, I am unable to answer that question. It has not increased in my office.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Is not this likely to be true—perhaps you have observed it and perhaps you have not—these clerks being disgruntled under this system naturally do not do as much work in the office as they did before?

Mr. HILLS. Well, you know human nature as well as I do.

RENT.

The CHAIRMAN. I want to ask another question about another matter, and that is in regard to rent of premises 1705 New York avenue. What do you know about that?

Mr. HILLS. You understand the photographic gallery of the Treasury Department has been in that little building south of the avenue. You understand what we had there and it became necessary to vacate that building in order that the foundation of the Sherman statute may be placed on that spot. We have to vacate that building. In addition to that the Treasury building and the Winder Building are now overcrowded with files. As a matter of fact, it is very embarrassing, and has been for the last three years, to do business with some of the offices. We have had to put the files in the corridors and all the available space in the building and we have taken office rooms, and we should have relief.

We looked around for a building and came to the conclusion that the Cox Building, on Seventeenth street, afforded the best facilities for the photograph gallery and also afforded relief for our files; and furthermore, Congress gave an increase to the office of the Auditor for the War Department of 65 clerks and it became necessary to find suitable quarters for them, and we found the rental of this building would afford relief for the Department files and also accommodate the photograph gallery and we could put nearly all of the 65 clerks in that building. It is a four-story building and it is 45 by 80 or 40 by 80, I have forgotten which just now, and it is nicely located and will relieve the Department immediately.

The CHAIRMAN. How far is it from the Winder Building?

Mr. HILLS. It is a short distance—a little over half a square. It is on New York avenue. The Winder Building is on the corner of Seventeenth and F, and a short distance around the corner on New York avenue is this building.

The CHAIRMAN. Is it a pretty good building?

Mr. HILLS. Yes, sir. It was built for governmental purposes and was occupied by the War Department.

The CHAIRMAN. Is it a fireproof building?

Mr. HILLS. No, sir; it is not.

The CHAIRMAN. The rent for that is to be \$3,000?

Mr. HILLS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that a reasonable rental for it?

Mr. HILLS. A very reasonable rental for it, considering what the owner is going to do. He is going to put in an electric elevator to run to the fourth floor, to accommodate the photograph work and help accommodate the clerks of the Auditor's office if they go in that building if it is rented.

The CHAIRMAN. Is it a proper building in which to put files?

Mr. HILLS. I think it is. It was so occupied, I think, by the War Department, and it has a standpipe running to the fourth floor.

The CHAIRMAN. The best building you know of for the purpose?

Mr. HILLS. The best building I know of for the purpose; yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Why is it not practicable to take the little frame building where the photograph gallery is situated and move it south out of the way of the statue?

Mr. HILLS. We had that matter under advisement a year ago, but the condition of the building will not permit of it. It has been there twenty-odd years and it is water-soaked, and it would fall to pieces.

The CHAIRMAN. There is plenty room for it if it could be moved, is there not?

Mr. HILLS. It would disfigure that park. We had it examined by experts, by direction of the Secretary, and they said it could not be moved.

The CHAIRMAN. It is a cheap building, not worth over \$1,500?

Mr. HILLS. It is very cheap, and if it was sold to-day it would not bring anything except as old lumber, and it would not be worth much.

The CHAIRMAN. What about putting up a building for the photograph gallery a little south of that?

Mr. HILLS. That might accommodate the photograph people, but, as I said before, it would disfigure the appearance of that lot, and I do not think you could put up a

suitable building down there that would be ornamental and afford the necessary facilities for less than \$2,500 or \$3,000.

The CHAIRMAN. The reason I ask you about that is this. Of course that is got to be moved away, but you could find some building or put up a building. On the 1st of December there is a whole floor in this new post-office building, the seventh floor, which is a pretty roomy place, that is to be devoted now to the public service. That would be a better place for your files and clerks than any other you can think of, I take it, if it was ready, would it not?

Mr. HILLS. It might do. It would be a little inconvenient, as it is so far remote from the Winder Building.

The CHAIRMAN. Of course you have got to have the files which the clerks work with right near to them.

Mr. HILLS. I speak particularly of the 65 clerks for which you made provision. They ought to be accommodated somewhere in the next thirty days.

The CHAIRMAN. Would not the seventh floor of that building accommodate the whole of the Second Auditor's office, or the Auditor for the War Department, and turn that Winder Building over to something else?

Mr. HILLS. I am not prepared to answer that question.

The CHAIRMAN. It has about 20,000 square feet of net space. How many clerks are there?

Mr. HILLS. I could not answer that, but I think with these additional clerks there would be about 400.

The CHAIRMAN. Where is the Fourth Auditor now?

Mr. HILLS. He is in the Treasury building proper.

The CHAIRMAN. How many clerks has he got?

Mr. HILLS. I think he has about 30 or 35—it is not a very large office—probably 40, and you have given him 19 additional.

The CHAIRMAN. He would have 60 clerks; has he pretty large files?

Mr. HILLS. Very large files.

The CHAIRMAN. It seems to me you might move him out bodily.

Mr. HILLS. He has very large files.

The CHAIRMAN. How much has the Fifth Auditor got?

Mr. HILLS. He has files, but they are not nearly so large as the auditor for the Navy Department.

The CHAIRMAN. And his force is not so large?

Mr. HILLS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. How many has he?

Mr. HILLS. I think about the same number.

The CHAIRMAN. How about the Auditor for the Interior Department?

Mr. HILLS. He is on the third floor. There is no Auditor whose files has increased so rapidly as that Auditor. He has all the pension accounts, and it has increased very rapidly. That is one of the offices which embarrasses me so much now on account of the rapid increase of the pension accounts.

The CHAIRMAN. The reason we ask these questions, to be entirely frank with you, is this: We have been trying for a long time to get people out of these leased buildings. Now we are going to move out of very good leased buildings. The Sixth Auditor moves, the Money-Order Bureau moves. We are going to move them bodily out. I doubt if the Cox Building or any other occupied outside are as good as those quarters, but we are going to move them into this new building. This new building will be ready by the 1st of December. Now, it does seem to me upon this seventh floor you might move two of your Auditors. If that building was done now I am very clear we could make some other provision for this photograph gallery. I do not see why you could not go and lease a photograph gallery in the Corcoran Building or some other place. I will ask you practically about that, whether there is not somewhere a place you could lease for a photograph gallery?

Mr. HILLS. There are quarters. We had rooms in the Corcoran Building under consideration. We had a proposition for the rental of them at \$1,800, and they agreed to fix up the rooms to accommodate the photograph work, but the matter of files came up and of course he could not afford accommodations for files. The accumulation of files of the Fourth Auditor's office is immense; they are very large files.

The CHAIRMAN. If we should make this appropriation you would want that struck out, 1,705, and appropriate for purchase of furniture and shelving and transfer of files and rent, and you could adjust it as you pleased.

Mr. HILLS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. And \$9,500 seems to be your estimate. I wish you would get from the clerk before you go the area of this floor space, so you can understand what the seventh floor is to be and how it is to be arranged, and take into consideration the getting along without the renting of this building which you speak of from now until the 1st of December, and then with the prospect of moving out two of your Auditors'

people, and then accommodating in your present room the balance. I wish you would look into that matter during the day and come up here to-morrow morning and tell us what you think about it.

Mr. HILLS. All right, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Of course the public service has to be cared for, and I am only saying I feel quite sure by the 1st of December, when this building is done, you can be accommodated by it, and it is for the six months between the two we have got to look after.

Mr. HILLS. Yes, sir.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D. C., June 8, 1898.

Hon. J. G. CANNON,

Chairman Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives.

SIR: In response to your verbal request, I have the honor to submit the following relative to the floor space on the eighth floor of the new post-office building which is allotted to the Secretary of the Treasury for assignment, and the square feet of floor space occupied, respectively, by the Auditors for the War, Interior, Navy, and State and other Departments:

Eighth floor, new post-office building, square feet that can be used for office purposes	19, 810
<hr/>	
Auditor for the War Department, Winder Building:	
Square feet occupied by employees	24, 863
Square feet occupied by files	20, 673
Total	45, 536
Number of employees, exclusive of the 65 for which provision was recently made	269
Square feet of office room to each employee, about	93
<hr/>	
Auditor for the Interior Department, Treasury building:	
Square feet occupied by employees	12, 501
Square feet occupied by files	20, 370
Total	32, 871
Number of employees	132
Square feet of office room to each employee, about	94
<hr/>	
Auditor for the Navy Department, Treasury building:	
Square feet occupied by employees	4, 403
Square feet occupied by files	2, 965
Total	7, 368
Number of employees, exclusive of the 19 for which provision was recently made	50
Square feet of office room to each employee, about	88
<hr/>	
Auditor for the State and other Departments, Treasury building:	
Square feet occupied by employees	4, 993
Square feet occupied by files	2, 785
Total	7, 778
Number of employees	60
Square feet of office room to each employee, about	83

It will be observed by the foregoing that it would be impracticable to put either the Auditor for the War or Interior Departments on the eighth floor of the new post-office building, for each of those offices now occupy more floor space than can be made available in that building. The Auditors for the Navy and State Departments might go there, but if they did it would only relieve the overcrowded condition existing in this building. Such relief, however, should be afforded as soon as possible, but the fact that the Winder Building will not accommodate in whole the increase in the clerical force of the Auditor for the War Department should not be overlooked.

The structural stability of the Winder Building has been the subject of two examinations within the last fourteen months by experts detailed from the office of the Supervising Architect, who report that it would be dangerous to further increase the present load of the building.

It is extremely doubtful whether, under the most favorable circumstances, the

new post-office building would afford proper facilities for the execution of the photographic work of the office of the Supervising Architect. The work requires a southern exposure and a platform extending from the building on which to place the negatives for photographing the large plans of buildings, which must be of sufficient capacity and strength to accommodate the operators.

The Bureau of Statistics now occupies rooms in the Adams Building, on F street, near Fourteenth street, at an annual rental, including heat, of \$3,970, and it is suggested that that Bureau, together with one or two offices now in the Treasury building, say the Light-House Board and the Supervising Inspector of Steam Vessels, might go to the new post-office building.

An estimate is now pending giving the Internal-Revenue Office 36 additional clerks. The work incident to issuing the proposed new loan will probably require an increase in the clerical force in that branch of the Department. These increases, if granted, taken in connection with the increase of 19 clerks in the office of the Auditor for the Navy Department, would tax the Treasury building beyond its limits, and relief can only be afforded by transferring some of its officials and clerks to the new post-office.

In view of the above it is my judgment that if the post-office building were now ready for occupancy it would not wholly relieve the situation, and that it would be necessary to rent a building until the business of the Department has reached a normal condition, which will be several years hence.

The Light-House Board occupies 6,413 square feet of floor space; the office of the Supervising Inspector of Steam Vessels occupies 868 square feet of floor space, and the Bureau of Statistics occupies 5,945 square feet of floor space, or an aggregate of 13,226 square feet for the three offices.

Respectfully, yours,

W. H. HILLS, *Acting Chief Clerk.*

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

NUMBERING AND ADDING MACHINES.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D. C., February 15, 1898.

HON. J. G. CANNON,

Chairman Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith for favorable consideration copy of a communication from the chief clerk of this Department of this date and its inclosure, urging that an appropriation of \$2,000 be provided in the sundry civil or general deficiency bill for the purchase by this Department of numbering, adding, and other similar machines, as estimated for on page 34 of the Book of Estimates for 1899.

Respectfully, yours,

O. L. SPAULDING, *Acting Secretary.*

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D. C., February 15, 1898.

To the honorable the SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

SIR: I have the honor to recommend that the inclosed copies of a letter addressed to you from the chief clerk, Treasury Department, dated January 31, 1898, urging an appropriation of \$2,000 for the purchase of numbering, adding, and other similar machines, be transmitted to the chairmen of the Senate and House Committees on Appropriations, with the request that the item be provided for in either the sundry civil or general deficiency bill when taken up for consideration.

An estimate for this object was included in the general estimates, page 34, Book of Estimates for 1899.

Respectfully, yours,

THEO. F. SWAYZE, *Chief Clerk.*

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D. C., January 31, 1898.

To the honorable the SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith communications from the Treasurer United States, Director of the Mint, and George A. Bartlett, disbursing clerk, Treasury

Department, dated January 31, 1898, relative to the utility of accounting or adding machines in connection with the transaction of the business in their respective offices, and to recommend that the attention of the Committee on Appropriations, United States Senate, be called to the item of \$2,000, included in the estimates for contingent expenses, Treasury Department, for the purchase of numbering, adding, and other similar machines, and to request that the committee be urged to provide an appropriation therefor.

The use of these machines is quite general in large banking and mercantile establishments throughout the country, and their adoption by the Department would enable the several offices in which they are to be used to add long columns of figures with a degree of accuracy and rapidity not attainable by any other process.

Respectfully, yours,

THEO. F. SWAYZE, *Chief Clerk.*

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE,
Washington, D. C., January 29, 1898.

To the honorable the SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

SIR: Since assuming charge of this Bureau I have examined the matter of the salaries paid to the officers and employees and have carefully considered the same, and I am fully satisfied that in view of the long experience of Mr. George W. Wilson, the Deputy Commissioner of Internal Revenue, and the invaluable services he is rendering to the Government in the place that he holds he is entitled, without question, to a much larger salary than he is receiving.

I therefore most earnestly request and urge that you give favorable consideration to this matter, and that you recommend to and urge upon Congress that the salary of the Deputy Commissioner of Internal Revenue, at least so long as the present incumbent, George W. Wilson, holds the place, be increased to not less than \$4,500 per annum.

For this purpose I recommend that the legislative, executive, and judicial appropriation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1898, for the item "Salaries, Office of Commissioner of Internal Revenue" be increased to cover the difference in the salary of the Deputy Commissioner of Internal Revenue at the present rate, \$3,200 per annum, and the proposed rate, \$4,500 per annum, for the five months ending June 30, 1898, as follows: \$538.10.

I also recommend that the estimate for the item "Salaries, Office of Commissioner of Internal Revenue" in the legislative, executive, and judicial appropriation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1899, be increased to cover the proposed increase of the salary of the Deputy Commissioner of Internal Revenue for said fiscal year as follows: \$1,300.

Very respectfully,

N. B. SCOTT,
Commissioner.

MAJTHENY, THEODORE.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D. C., April 16, 1898.

Hon. J. G. CANNON,

Chairman Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith copy of a communication from the Court of Claims of the 14th instant, relative to the judgment entered by the court December 9, 1897, for \$60.77 in the case of Theodore Majtheny, a letter carrier at Philadelphia, Pa. This case will be found on page 21 of House Doc. No. 325 of the present session of Congress in the list of Philadelphia letter-carrier judgments submitted to Congress for appropriation on February 26, 1898, and in making appropriations for said judgments the case of Theodore Majtheny should be excepted by reason of its being vacated and set aside by the court April 11, 1898.

Respectfully, yours,

L. J. GAGE, *Secretary.*

COURT OF CLAIMS,
Washington, D. C., April 14, 1898.

THEODORE MAJTHENY }
v. } No. 17272.
UNITED STATES. }

HON. LYMAN J. GAGE,
Secretary of the Treasury.

SIR: At a Court of Claims held in the city of Washington April 11, 1898, the judgment entered December 9, 1897, in the case of Theodore Majtheny, a letter carrier of Philadelphia, Pa., was vacated and set aside upon the motion of claimant's attorney.

An attested transcript of said judgment for \$60.77 was delivered to claimant's attorney December 14, 1897, to be filed in the Treasury Department.

This note is written for the information of your Department.

Very respectfully,

JOHN RANDOLPH,
Assistant Clerk Court of Claims.

STATEN ISLAND LIGHT-HOUSE DEPOT.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., May 11, 1898.

Chairman Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives.

SIR: At the instance of the Light-House Board I have the honor to recommend that the wording of the appropriation for the Staten Island Light-House Depot in the pending sundry civil bill be amended by adding the words "to be immediately available." See printed page from the bill inclosed herewith.

Under a recent decision of the Comptroller of the Treasury Department the full amount of the balance under the appropriation for the current year is not available for completing a contract that has been made. The deficiency is \$5,040. The contract time expires June 30, 1898. If the appropriation carried by the pending bill can be made immediately available, the amount above named can be used to complete this contract.

Should you desire, a member of the board will appear before your committee and furnish more detailed information.

Respectfully, yours,

L. J. GAGE, *Secretary.*

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., May 13, 1898.

Chairman Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives.

SIR: The following is a copy of a telegram sent you this day:

"The balance Staten Island Depot appropriation that is no longer available is \$5,040 of appropriation for 1897. Comptroller's decision is to the effect that a contract for cement made in fiscal year 1897, but not finally approved until after close of that year, is not payable from appropriation for 1897. Therefore it must be paid from appropriation for 1898, and the available balance under appropriation for 1898 is therefore reduced by the amount of the cement contract."

Respectfully, yours,

L. J. GAGE, *Secretary.*

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

INDIGENT INSANE.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
Washington, May 31, 1898.

HON. J. G. CANNON,

Chairman Committee on Deficiency Appropriations, House of Representatives.

DEAR SIR: The Commissioners of the District of Columbia have the honor to transmit herewith a draft of a proviso to make it the duty of the marshal of the District of Columbia to impanel from the jurors in attendance upon the criminal courts in said District any juries that may be necessary in proceedings to commit

resident indigent insane persons to the Government Hospital for the Insane. An extract from the opinion of the attorney for the District is herewith transmitted as showing the advisability of the proposed legislation.

Very respectfully,

JOHN B. WIGHT,
President Board of Commissioners District of Columbia.

[Extract from opinion of attorney.]

Formerly resident indigent insane persons in this District were admitted to the Government Hospital for the Insane on the certificate of the Secretary of the Interior under section 4844 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, but the supreme court of the District of Columbia having held in 1885, in *Bryant's Case* (3 Mackey, 489), that section 4854 of the statute relating to the admission of pay patients did not contemplate compulsory seclusion without due process of law, and that due process of law in such cases meant the finding of the fact of insanity by a jury, and that the doors of said hospital were open only to such insane persons from the District of Columbia as had been found to be insane by the verdict of a jury, ever since the decision in *Bryant's Case* proceedings on the part of the Commissioners to commit insane persons to the Government Hospital have been under the Maryland act of 1785, chapter 27, section 6, in force in this District, relating to the care of insane persons, which provides for a petition to the chancellor, a writ de lunatico inquirendo, and the verdict of a jury.

The fifth amendment to the Constitution of the United States provides that "no person shall be * * * deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law."

The sixth and seventh amendments constitute a guaranty of the right of trial by jury, but as they do not mention the States they are not to be understood as restricting the powers of the States, and they may, if they choose, provide for the trial of all offenses against the States, as well as for the trial of civil cases in the State courts, without the intervention of a jury, or by some different jury from that known to the common law. (*Twitchell v. Commonwealth*, 7 Wall., 321.)

While the constitutional phrase "due process of law" has been frequently defined by the courts, it still remains without a satisfactory definition. It is equivalent, says the Supreme Court in *Murray's Lessee v. Hoboken Co.* (18 How., 272), to the phrase "by the law of the land" in *Magna Charta*.

In England from early times a lunatic has been regarded as a ward of the court of chancery. In Maryland the chancellor was invested by the act of 1785 with all the powers in regard to lunatics that the chancellor of England was clothed with.

A person alleged to be insane has always by the English law been entitled to have the question of his sanity tried by jury, and the same right has been recognized in this country. Our constitutional guaranty that the right of trial by jury shall be preserved has been held to apply to all cases which at common law were triable by jury; and a common law petit jury consists of neither more nor less than twelve men.

In my judgment it would be unconstitutional to undertake to provide for a jury of less than twelve in lunacy cases.

In the great majority of these cases there is no practical objection to one jury trying half a dozen of them at one continuous sitting, rendering separate verdicts, as the juries do not have to spend any time deliberating over their verdicts.

In my judgment a great deal of public money could be saved if the law in regard to lunacy proceedings was changed so as to authorize the jurors in attendance in the criminal courts of the District, in addition to and as part of their service therein, to be impaneled from time to time by the marshal in lunacy proceedings.

Very respectfully,

S. T. THOMAS,
Attorney, District of Columbia.

ANACOSTIA ENGINE HOUSE.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
Washington, May 9, 1898.

Hon. J. G. CANNON,

Chairman Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives.

DEAR SIR: The Commissioners have the honor to recommend the substitution of the inclosed proviso to transfer, for the benefit of the Anacostia Engine Company, the balance of the appropriation for the Brightwood engine house, in lieu of the

clause proposing to transfer the balance of the appropriation for the Eighth street engine house for that purpose.

The balance of the appropriation for the Eighth street engine house will be so small that its transfer to the Anacostia company would not be of any material service, and it is now found that it will be needed for the Eighth street building.

Very respectfully,

JOHN W. ROSS,
President Board of Commissioners District of Columbia.

SKIPPON, CHARLES M.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
Washington, April 5, 1898.

Hon. J. W. BABCOCK,
Chairman Committee on the District of Columbia, House of Representatives.

DEAR SIR: The Commissioners of the District of Columbia recommend favorable action upon House bill 9261, for the relief of the heirs of Charles M. Skippon, which was referred to them at your instance for their examination, and report.

It appears that said Skippon became a member of the Metropolitan police force September 11, 1861, and was dropped from the rolls for inefficiency, to take effect April 30, 1882. At the time he was removed from office there were 11 unpaid checks drawn to his order for compensation for services as a member of the police department from June 1, 1881, to April 30, 1882 (the date of his removal), amounting to \$988. These checks were subsequently canceled and the amount repaid to the appropriation, in order to enable the auditor's office to settle and close the accounts of the Commissioners with the Treasury Department. Skippon was confined in the insane asylum from June 19, 1879, to July 29, 1883, as a pay patient, and from that date to the date of his decease on March 14, 1891, as an indigent patient.

Very respectfully,

JOHN W. ROSS,
President Board of Commissioners District of Columbia.

accompany bill for the relief of the heirs of Charles M. Skippon.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

Charles M. Skippon was a lieutenant in the Metropolitan police force of the District of Columbia for some years prior to January 1, 1880. Shortly before that date while he was such lieutenant, he became insane, and was thus incapacitated for performing the active duties of that position.

On January 1, 1880, he was reduced from lieutenant to private, at the rate of \$1,000 per annum, and was so carried on the rolls until May 1, 1882, when he was dropped. His salary was paid him until June, 1881, but subsequent to that time the checks issued to him were refused payment by the Treasury Department on the ground of his nonperformance of duty through said insanity, said Skippon being at the time confined in the insane asylum.

The checks so issued, but not paid, amounted to \$988.

The money represented by these checks has been turned back into the Treasury, and hence an act of Congress is necessary for its recovery.

Charles M. Skippon is now deceased, and hence his heirs are entitled to this sum of \$988.

The following decisions of the Court of Claims have directly decided the legality of claims of this sort, and show that the refusal of the Treasury Department to honor said checks was illegal and that the heirs of the said Charles M. Skippon are entitled to this money:

[Joseph A. Ware v. The United States. 7 Court of Claims Record, page 565. December term, 1871.]

The facts in this case were as follows:

Ware was absent from the Treasury Department certain days on account of sickness, as was shown by a physician's certificate. The Secretary directed that his absence be deducted from his pay.

The opinion of the court, as delivered by Milligan, J. (p. 567), says: "There is no authority that we know of which authorizes the Secretary in such a case to withhold any portion of his compensation fixed by law. His remedy was to remove him, not arbitrarily to cut down his compensation."

And judgment was thereupon entered for the claimant.

[Luther E. Sleight v. The United States. 9 Court of Claims Record, page 369. December term, 1873.]

In this case the claimant was absent from the Treasury Department on account of sickness. The Secretary of the Treasury directed that his absence be without pay. The suit was brought to recover the salary so withheld.

Chief Justice Drake, in delivering the opinion of the court (p. 375), said:

"The incumbent of an office is prima facie entitled to the lawful compensation thereof so long as he holds the office, though he may be disabled by disease or bodily injury from performing its duties. If it be an office held at the will of the appointing power, and that power does not see fit to have the compensation go on while the incumbent is so disabled, the only remedy, in the absence of express law or regulation authorizing the stoppage of the compensation during the disability, is to remove the incumbent and so end his right to compensation. If the appointing power suffers him to continue in office notwithstanding the disability, he is entitled to the compensation. This right may be cut off by law or regulation authorizing it, but not by the act of the appointing power without the authority of law or regulation."

[John Frasier v. The United States. 16 Court of Claims Record, page 507. December Term, 1880.]

The facts of the case:

The Supervising Architect (Hill) of the Treasury was suspended. The claimant was directed by the Secretary to take charge of and perform the duties of the office. He was at the time superintendent of a building in process of erection and was receiving a stipulated per diem compensation. The Supervising Architect received the salary of that office for the period of his suspension. The claimant received during that same period his per diem allowance. He sued for the salary of the office while he performed its duties.

In this case also the court held that Hill, although suspended from duty, was holding the office and was entitled to the salary established by law.

[Chisolm v. The United States. 27 Court of Claims Record, page 94.]

The court here reaffirms the doctrine laid down in the cases of Ware and Sleight.

The act of March 3, 1883 (22 Stat. L., 564; Sup. Rev. Stat., 409), regulated the matter of leaves of absence subsequent to that date.

[Hurlburt v. The United States. 30 Court of Claims Record, page 16.]

This case was one where an employee's pay was withheld for absence subsequent to the act of March 3, 1883.

The court in deciding this case says that prior to March 3, 1883, an employee would undoubtedly be entitled to his salary while carried on the rolls, and that if this cause of action had accrued prior to that time Hurlburt could have recovered.

At the time that the salary of Charles M. Skippon was refused payment by the Treasury Department, June, 1881, to May, 1882, this act of March 3, 1883, had not changed the status of this question of law, and the decisions in the cases quoted above establish the right of the said Charles M. Skippon, and now since his decease of his heirs, to the sum remaining unpaid, to wit, \$988.

ASSESSOR, BOND OF.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,

Washington, April 9, 1898.

HON. JOSEPH G. CANNON,

Chairman Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives.

DEAR SIR: The Commissioners of the District of Columbia have the honor to submit herewith a draft of a proviso requiring the assessor to give bond to said District for the faithful performance of the duties of his office, and recommend that it be enacted in the pending deficiency appropriation bill.

The present office of assessor is one of three offices of assessor created by section 12 of the act of Congress, "For the support of the government of the District of Columbia," etc., approved March 3, 1877 (U. S. Stats., v. 19, p. 400), with terms of five years each, and with the requirement that the incumbents shall take an oath of office, but without obliging them to give bond.

On December 21, 1878, the Commissioners, pursuant to authority vested in them by section 3 of the act of Congress of June 11, 1878 (20 Stat. L., p. 104), "to abolish any office, to consolidate two or more offices," etc., abolished two of said offices of assessor and consolidated the remaining office of assessor with the offices of treasurer and of superintendent of assessment and taxes, under the title of "the

treasurer and assessor's office." The office of treasurer was abolished by a clause in section 1 of the act of Congress of March 3, 1881 (21 Stat. L., p. 460), leaving only the office of one assessor, on which various duties have since, from time to time, been imposed by acts of Congress.

The treasurer was required by law to give bond in the sum of \$100,000; the superintendent of assessment and taxes in the sum of \$10,000; but neither of these requirements appears to apply to the assessor, whose duties and responsibilities are, in the judgment of the Commissioners, such as to make it desirable that he should give a bond commensurate therewith.

Very respectfully,

JOHN W. ROSS, *President.*

COURTS, FEES OF CLERKS OF.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
Washington, March 18, 1898.

Hon. J. G. CANNON,

Chairman Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives.

SIR: The Commissioners of the District of Columbia have the honor to transmit herewith, for inclusion in the pending deficiency appropriation bill, a provision to relieve the District of Columbia from the payment of fees to the clerks of the District courts in the institution of judicial proceedings, and to the United States marshal in the service of civil process.

The compensation of the clerk of the supreme court of the District of Columbia is derived from fees, the surplus of which is turned into the Treasury, while the salaries of the marshal's office and of the clerk of the court of appeals are paid from appropriations and all the fees covered into the Treasury to the credit of the United States.

Under the present arrangement deficiency appropriations for marshal's fees are annually required, but when granted they are merely "covered" back into the Treasury, no necessity existing for their use.

The appropriation for writs of lunacy is inadequate, and usually fails several months before the close of the fiscal year, and the public safety is menaced by dangerous lunatics being at large for want of the means to defray the cost of a judicial inquiry into and determination of their cases.

If this amendment be adopted, the present appropriation for writs of lunacy will be sufficient for jurors' and witnesses' fees, and the item of \$1,400 for United States marshal's fees, under the head of "Courts," can be omitted from the bill making appropriations for the expenses of the District of Columbia.

Very respectfully,

JOHN W. ROSS,
President Board of Commissioners District of Columbia.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

INDIAN INSPECTORS.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, May 29, 1898.

Chairman Committee on Appropriations.

SIR: Referring to the item of \$1,000 contained in House Doc. No. 319, Fifty-fifth Congress, second session, "Supplemental deficiency estimates for traveling expenses of Indian inspectors," I have the honor to urgently recommend that this sum be increased to \$2,000. The services of inspectors can not be dispensed with for even a few days without injury to the service and serious embarrassment and inconvenience to the Department. With \$1,000 it will not be possible to keep inspectors in the service more than half of the remainder of the fiscal year.

C. N. BLISS, *Secretary.*

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, April 9, 1898.

Hon. JOSEPH G. CANNON,

Chairman Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives.

SIR: I transmit herewith a copy of a letter from the Director of the Geological Survey and accompanying inclosures, in regard to the serious embarrassment which

will be caused in his office by reason of the clause in the legislative, executive, and judicial appropriation bill, approved March 15, 1898, prohibiting the purchase of books of reference and periodicals unless same are specifically appropriated for.

He suggests as a remedy in the premises the incorporation in the deficiency bill of the following clause, to wit:

"That section three of the act approved March fifteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, entitled 'An act making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, and for other purposes,' be, and the same hereby is, amended by the addition of the following clause:

"*Provided*, That this section shall not be construed so as to prevent the purchase of professional and scientific books and periodicals needed for statistical purposes by the scientific divisions of the United States Geological Survey and for payment therefor out of their general fund."

I have the honor to commend to your favorable consideration the suggestion of the Director of the Geological Survey in this matter.

Very respectfully,

C. N. BLISS, *Secretary*.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY,
Washington, D. C., April 7, 1898.

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

SIR: The legislative, executive, and judicial bill for the year ending June 30, 1899, approved March 15, 1898, in section 3, paragraph "Court of Claims," contains the following provision:

"That hereafter law books, books of reference, and periodicals for use of any Executive Department at the seat of Government shall not be purchased or paid for from any appropriation made for contingent expenses or for any specific or general purpose unless such purchase is authorized and payment therefor specifically provided in the law governing the appropriation."

In the prosecution of work in several of the divisions of this office it frequently becomes necessary to purchase periodicals or books for immediate use. Without this privilege the work may be seriously embarrassed at times.

I have the honor to invite your attention to the two letters herewith inclosed, one from Mr. F. H. Newell, chief of the hydrographic division, and the other from Mr. E. W. Parker, acting chief of the division of mineral resources, in which these gentlemen set forth the conditions prevailing in their respective divisions.

In view of this I have the honor to request that the inclosed proposed amendment, modifying the above-quoted clause, be recommended for incorporation in the general deficiency bill now being considered by the Committee on Appropriations in the House of Representatives.

Very respectfully,

CHAS. D. WALCOTT, *Director*.

AMENDMENT.

That section three of the act approved March fifteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, entitled "An act making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, and for other purposes," be, and the same hereby is, amended by the addition of the following clause:

"*Provided*, That this section shall not be construed so as to prevent the purchase of professional and scientific books and periodicals needed for statistical purposes by the scientific divisions of the United States Geological Survey and for payment therefor out of their general fund."

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY,
Washington, D. C., April 5, 1898.

Hon. CHARLES D. WALCOTT, *Director*.

SIR: It having been brought to my attention that a recent provision of law prohibits the purchase of necessary technical books from general funds, I respectfully call to your attention the desirability of attempting to secure some amendment to this. In any investigation, statistical or technical in character, scientific books and

certain current periodicals form the necessary tools of the trained expert. They are not necessarily kept for reference, nor preserved, but often have their highest utility in their destruction as books. The provision, therefore, in this special application might be compared to a limitation put upon a general law for a public building in which the condition was inserted that no nails should be bought except from a special limited fund. The matter seems so self-evident that argument as to the necessity of being allowed to purchase necessary implements of this kind is superfluous.

Yours, with respect,

F. H. NEWELL, *Hydrographer.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY,
DIVISION OF MINERAL RESOURCES,
Washington, D. C., April 4, 1898.

HON. CHARLES D. WALCOTT,
Director U. S. Geological Survey, Washington, D. C.

SIR: The legislative bill for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1899, approved March 15, 1898, contains the following provision in section 3, under paragraph "Court of Claims:"

"That hereafter law books, books of reference, and periodicals for use of any executive department at the seat of government, shall not be purchased or paid for from any appropriation made for contingent expenses or for any specific or general purpose unless such purchase is authorized and payment therefor specifically provided in the law governing the appropriation."

In the work of collecting the statistics of the mineral production of the United States and compiling the annual volume Mineral Resources, it is absolutely essential that this division be supplied with two copies each of the technical and trade journals which apply to the mineral industry. In order that this division may keep track of new developments in the production and technology of the mining industry, it is necessary to have these periodicals from which clippings can be made and distributed according to the subjects treated. It is not possible to have the author of each chapter read all of the journals in order to select the articles bearing upon the subject treated by him, and this method of clipping has been found to be exceedingly economical and satisfactory.

I trust, therefore, that steps may be taken to secure such amendment to the provision quoted above as will enable this division to continue the purchase of two copies each of such technical journals as are necessary for the proper conduct of our work.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. W. PARKER,
Acting Chief of Division.

INDIAN TERRITORY, SURVEY OF.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY,
Washington, D. C., April 29, 1898.

HON. JOSEPH G. CANNON,
Chairman Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives.

MY DEAR SIR: The survey of the Indian Territory is now nearing completion. It is the expectation that all the field work will be finished before July 1. There will then remain only the office work, for which provision has been made.

The southern boundary of the Territory is a very irregular one, following the course of the Red River. The general direction is east and west, but the shifting channel of the river has sometimes taken in portions of the land of Indian Territory and sometimes portions of the land of Texas. As you will notice on the accompanying map, the areas of an east and west tier of our atlas sheets include the entire southern boundary line of the Territory. Of these sheets those portions which lie north of the river will have been surveyed, the data having been secured for both land-office plots and topographic maps.

It is exceedingly desirable and important that these sheets should be filled out to their southern limits in the State of Texas. This should be done not only with a view to clearly defining the boundary between Texas and Indian Territory, but also in order that the Survey may be able to publish the atlas sheets as complete units. No more money than has already been appropriated for the completion of the survey of the lands of the Chickasaw Nation is needed in order to complete the sheets in

question. I confidently anticipate that there will be from \$20,000 to \$23,000 unexpended when the work in field and office is completed. If authority can be given to use any unexpended balance of the appropriation of \$141,500 appropriated in the Indian act approved June 7, 1897, for resurveying the lands of the Chickasaw Nation, for the completion of the Texas portion of these sheets, as explained, it will not be necessary to ask for any further appropriation for the purpose.

We now have the men, the instruments, the animals, and the camp outfit in the field in the southern portion of Indian Territory, all of which can be utilized as soon as authority is granted for work upon the remaining portions of the topographic sheets of Indian Territory extending into Texas.

I believe this proposition to be a wise and businesslike one and one which I can earnestly recommend to your favorable consideration.

In addition to the map showing the position of the atlas sheets, I inclose a draft of a suggested amendment to cover the above.

Very respectfully, yours,

CHAS. D. WALCOTT, *Director.*

CAPITOL, LIGHTING THE.

ARCHITECT'S OFFICE, UNITED STATES CAPITOL,
Washington, D. C., March 15, 1898.

Hon. J. G. CANNON,
Chairman Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives.

SIR: I have the honor to request that there be provided in the general deficiency bill the sum of \$4,171.88 to supply deficiencies for lighting the Capitol, grounds, and Botanic Garden for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1898.

For the information of the committee, I have to state that the sum asked for is made up of the following items:

Amount due.

The Westinghouse Electric Company, for appliances for the switchboards, electric-light plants.....	\$146.11
J. P. Hall, for electric cables connecting House and Senate dynamo rooms.....	1,412.37
The E. F. Brooks Company, for electric fixtures for committee rooms.....	528.72
Simplex Electric Company, for electric wires and cables for general extension.....	320.76
Manhattan Construction Company, for arc lamps.....	105.00
United States Electric Lighting Company, for glow lamps.....	308.92
For salaries of employees operating plants (deficiency for last half June).....	850.00
Contingencies (for immediate extension to House library and book rooms).....	500.00
Total.....	4,171.88

Very respectfully,

EDWARD CLARK,
Architect United States Capitol.

SHEBOYGAN TUG BOAT LINE.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, April 4, 1898.

SIR: In response to your telegram of this afternoon I have the honor to transmit herewith copy of letter, dated April 12, 1895, from Capt. Carl F. Palfrey, Corps of Engineers, on the subject of damage to tug *Sheboygan*; also copy of letter to the said officer from the Chief of Engineers in reply thereto.

In submitting these copies the Chief of Engineers remarks:

"I am of opinion that the owners of the tug *Sheboygan* should be reimbursed to the extent named by Captain Palfrey, viz, \$35."

Very respectfully,

R. A. ALGER, *Secretary of War.*

Hon. J. G. CANNON,
Chairman Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives.

UNITED STATES ENGINEER OFFICE,
Milwaukee, Wis., April 12, 1895.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS L. CASEY,
Chief of Engineers, U. S. A., Washington, D. C.

GENERAL: I have the honor to request authority to pay the bill of the Sheboygan Tug Boat Line for damage to tug *Sheboygan* on March 29, 1895, \$35.

The U. S. tug *Lorena*, while turning around, collided with the *Sheboygan*, which was lying at her dock. The accident occurred because the engineer, understanding that the run was for the lake, had gone below to oil his engine and could not get back to answer the bell for backing in time to prevent the collision. The *Lorena* was backing at the time of the collision.

The bill is certified as reasonable by my overseer of dredges, who examined the injury to the *Sheboygan* at the time.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CARL F. PALFREY,
Captain of Engineers.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ENGINEERS, UNITED STATES ARMY,
Washington, April 16, 1895.

Capt. C. F. PALFREY,
Corps of Engineers, Milwaukee, Wis.

CAPTAIN: Referring to your letter of the 12th instant, inclosing claim of the Sheboygan Tug Boat Line, amounting to \$35, for alleged damage to tug *Sheboygan*, I have to advise you that under the decisions of the Second Comptroller claims for damages, however equitable, can not be allowed by the accounting officers, and disbursing officers have no right to adjudicate and pay such claims, Congress only having jurisdiction in the premises. (See Digest of Decisions of Second Comptroller, third edition, p. 65, paragraphs 460 462.)

By command of Brigadier-General Casey:

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. M. ADAMS,
Major, Corps of Engineers.

ASTROPHYSICAL OBSERVATORY.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,
Washington, May 24, 1898.

SIR: Referring to my letter of February 23, requesting that the change which the committee proposed to make in the item for the Astrophysical Observatory printing should become operative during the present fiscal year, I ask permission to explain that this was in view of an anticipated early publication, but that so much time has now elapsed that the granting of the request would no longer accomplish its original purpose, while at the same time economy has been exercised to save a small balance for this end.

This balance can no longer be well used for the object mentioned in the letter referred to, but can be spent advantageously on the shed which is used as the observatory in preparation for the coming year's work.

I respectfully ask, therefore, that the general deficiency bill may carry with it authority for the observatory to use any unexpended balance in the improvement of the present building, and I beg to inclose a draft of an item in accordance therewith.

Very respectfully, yours,

S. P. LANGLEY, Secretary.

Hon. J. G. CANNON,
Chairman Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

AUXILIARY NAVAL FORCE.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, June 13, 1898.

SIR: Will you be good enough to insert a clause in the urgency deficiency bill allowing the use of \$500,000 of the appropriation in joint resolution No. 34, for the organization and enlistment of the United States auxiliary naval force, for the repair and equipment of such vessels as may be purchased under that resolution?

This, you will notice, is necessary, as the resolution (in section 7) simply provides for the appropriation of \$3,000,000 "for the purchase or hire of vessels necessary for the purposes of this resolution;" and they always need some repairs and changes to fit them for naval use.

Very respectfully,

JOHN D. LONG,
Secretary.

Hon. J. G. CANNON,
House of Representatives.

GOLD COINAGE.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *June 11, 1898.*

Hon. J. G. CANNON:

The expenses of coinage of gold and subsidiary silver coin are paid from the annual appropriations, which are also applied to defray, as far as practicable, the expenses of coining silver dollars. The indefinite appropriation contained in the act of 1890 is only drawn from to the extent the regular appropriations will not meet all the expenses of coining silver dollars.

To coin the large amount of gold bullion—\$92,500,000—now on hand at New York and Philadelphia, and to recoin the uncurrent subsidiary silver coin necessary to meet the requirements of the Treasury within the next five months, and part of the amount of standard silver dollars required to be coined monthly, it will be necessary for the mint at Philadelphia to be run from fourteen to sixteen hours a day, and the regular appropriation for wages and contingent expenses would be exhausted before the 1st of December next.

The annual appropriation for wages and contingent expenses at the mint at New Orleans for 1899 would be exhausted in less than four months. To comply with the requirements for the coinage of silver dollars it will be necessary to increase the force at New Orleans to bring the coinage of that mint in silver dollars up from \$800,000 to \$1,000,000 per month.

The mint at New Orleans will also be required to recoin \$900,000 in subsidiary silver in the next four months. The stock of bullion purchased under the act of 1890 at the San Francisco mint is practically exhausted, and it would cost about \$15 per thousand to transport silver bullion from Philadelphia to that point. It will be necessary to run the mint at San Francisco for two or three months overtime in coining gold and subsidiary silver coin. The present appropriation for wages of workmen for 1899 at that institution will be exhausted by the 1st of February next.

L. J. GAGE, *Secretary.*

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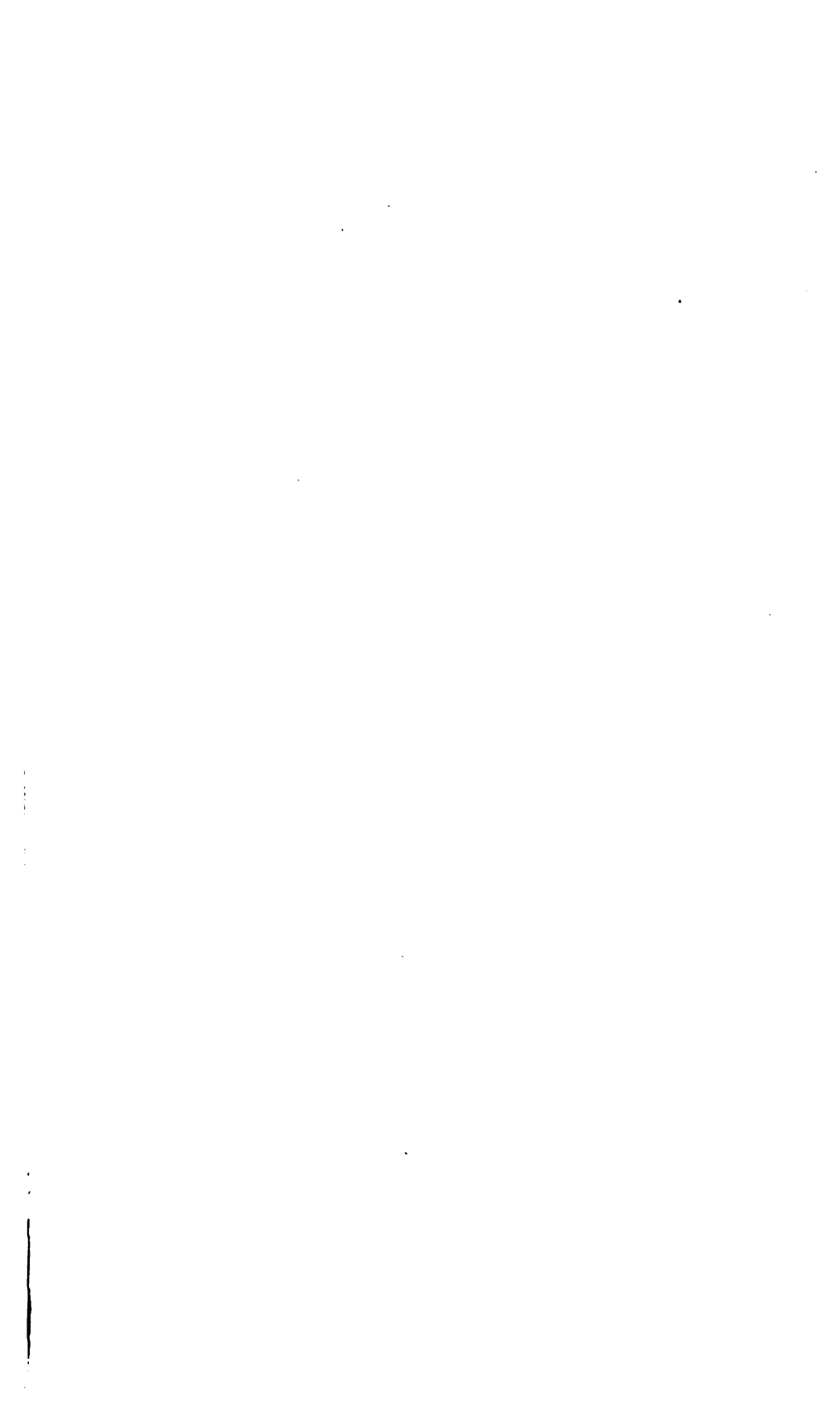






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